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Ann Arbor Observer

January 2020

AnnArborObserver.com

JOHN SHULTZ '18

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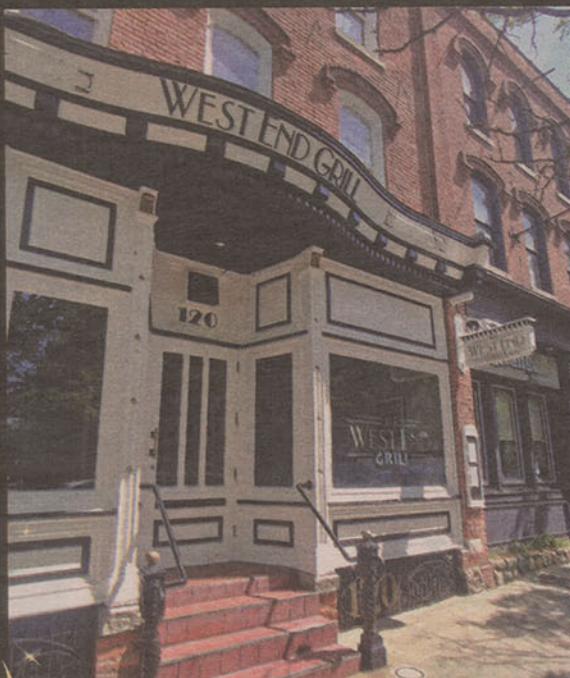
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winter

2020

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January 18, 2 pm

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winter

2020

JANUARY 16

OSKAR EUSTIS

■ producer, artistic director



JANUARY 23

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WASHINGTON JR.

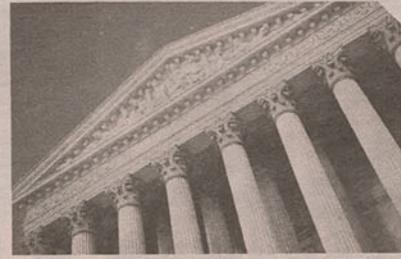
■ mixed media artist



JANUARY 30

CHIEF JUSTICE BRIDGET
McCORMACK, LEN NIEHOFF,
AND JOHN DE LANCIE

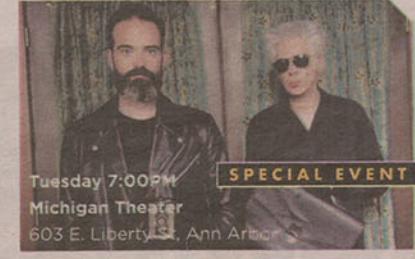
■ theater of justice



FEBRUARY 4

JIM JARMUSCH AND
CARTER LOGAN

■ sonic exploration



FEBRUARY 6

ANGELA WASHKO

■ game developer+cultural critique



FEBRUARY 13

AMANDA WILLIAMS AND
ANDRES HERNANDEZ

■ artist-designers



FEBRUARY 17

COURTNEY
McCLELLAN

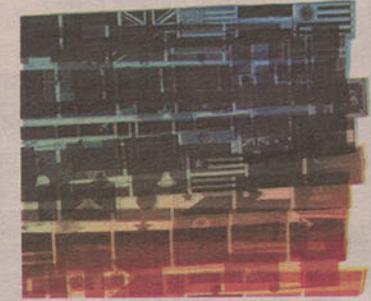
■ social performance



FEBRUARY 20

DAVID LANG

■ composer



MARCH 12

DR. ALEX DEHGAN

■ environmental challenger



MARCH 19

SHAKA SENGHOR

■ criminal justice reformer



MARCH 26

MARTHA COLBURN

■ animation



APRIL 1

ABIGAIL DeVILLE

■ sculptor and installation artist



APRIL 2

GLUKIYA

■ artivist



APRIL 9

NJIDEKA AKUNYILI
CROSBY

■ painter



SPECIAL EVENTS

Tuesday, February 4

Jim Jarmusch & Carter Logan / SQÜRL
7:00 PM / Michigan Theater
603 E. Liberty St, Ann Arbor

Monday, February 17

Courtney McClellan
5:30 PM / Helmut Stern Auditorium
UMMA, 525 S. State St, Ann Arbor

Wednesday, April 1

Abigail DeVille
5:30 PM / Helmut Stern Auditorium
UMMA, 525 S. State St, Ann Arbor

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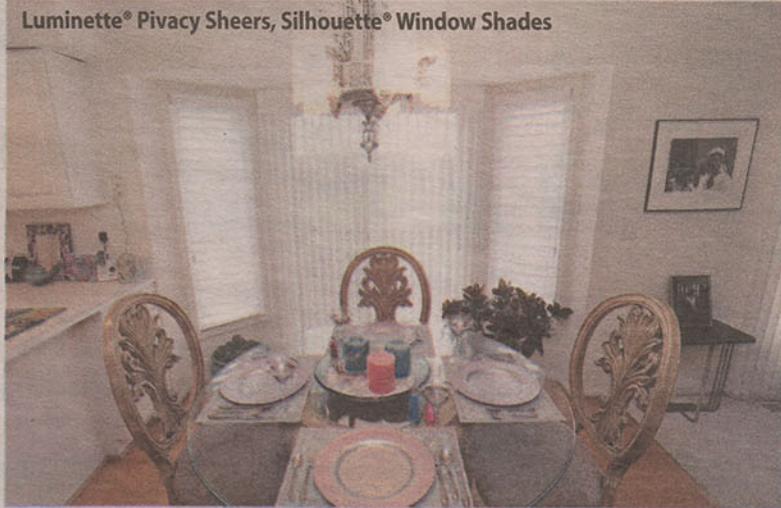
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Ann Arbor Observer

January 2020

vol. 44 • no. 5

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Search for Ann Arbor Public Schools

Wondering if your child is ready for Kindergarten? Contact your school for readiness screening or attend the district screening event

2020 Kindergarten & Young Fives* Round-Up Schedule

Abbot*	Tuesday	Feb 18	6:00 - 7:00 pm
Allen*	Thursday	Feb 6	6:00 - 7:30 pm
Angell*	Thursday	Feb 27	6:00 - 7:30 pm
AA Open	Tuesday	Feb 25	6:15 - 7:30 pm
A2 STEAM*	Wednesday	Feb 26	6:00 - 7:00 pm
Bach*	Thursday	Feb 27	6:00 - 7:30 pm
Bryant*/Pattengill	Thursday	Feb 20	6:00 - 7:30 pm
Burns Park*	Thursday	Feb 6	6:00 - 7:30 pm
Carpenter*	Thursday	Feb 27	6:00 - 7:30 pm
Dicken*	Thursday	Feb 20	6:00 - 8:00 pm
Eberwhite*	Thursday	Feb 6	6:00 - 7:30 pm
Haisley*	Thursday	Feb 20	6:00 - 7:30 pm
King*	Wednesday	Feb 19	6:00 - 7:00 pm
Lakewood*	Thursday	Feb 27	6:00 - 7:30 pm
Lawton*	Thursday	Feb 27	6:00 - 7:00 pm
Logan*	Wednesday	Feb 12	6:00 - 7:30 pm
Mitchell*	Thursday	Feb 20	6:00 - 7:00 pm
Pittsfield*	Thursday	Feb 27	6:00 - 7:30 pm
Thurston*	Thursday	Feb 20	6:00 - 7:30 pm
Wines*	Wednesday	Feb 5	6:00 - 7:30 pm

*Indicates Young Fives Program. To be eligible for Young Fives, children must turn five years old between May 1 and December 1, 2020.

Early Childhood Expo / District Screening Event

Drop-in, no appointment necessary

W. Scott Westerman

Preschool & Family Center Saturday

Feb 15

10:00 am - 1:00 pm



Passport to Adventure: There was something puzzling about the Chevrolet Trax displayed in Briarwood's east corridor in November. Not the vehicle itself—the mall has been renting spots to car dealers for years—but the sign that read "Enter to Win! \$20,000 or a new vehicle."

Why would anyone pay to give away a car—even GM's cheapest SUV?

Strategically placed tear-off pads announced "Free Drawing" and "WIN!" But then came the questions: blanks for name, address, phone, email, and age, then check boxes for marital and employment status, household income, and, of all things, ownership of recreational vehicles.

"To be eligible, entry form must be filled out completely," the fine print warned. And: "You must be a U.S. Citizen. You must be 21 years of age to qualify for the \$1,000 cash drawing ... To be eligible for the Grand Prize: a 2019 Car, Truck, or Cash (Tax, Title, Tag not included) you must be 30 years of age or older, currently employed with a combined household income of at least \$50,000 per year or retired."

Finally, nine lines down, came the answer to the mystery: "You are invited to attend a courteous tour of our facilities, lasting approximately 90 minutes, at one of our locations. If married or cohabitating, couples must be present at check in."

According to the websites listed, the closest facility to attend that "courteous presentation" is a campground in Davison, east of Flint. But at least a note at the end promised, "This is NOT a Timeshare or Land Sales Promotion."

Even that small comfort was gone in December. The Chevy had been replaced by a Polaris

four-wheeler, and this time the pads promoted a "Passport to Adventure \$55,500 Sweepstakes." After many lines of minuscule fine print came the warning: "This advertising material is being used for the

purpose of soliciting the sale of time-share property or interests in time-share property." Anyone who signed the form consented to "receive phone calls, including prerecorded messages and text messages, from Promoters at the phone numbers / wireless numbers / addresses

provided above regarding their offers, products, and services, including through an automated telephone dialing system."

The global anxiety about Google tracking people online and Alexa listening in at home evidently hadn't reached the mall: an overflowing entry box promised the promoters a bumper crop of personal data.

Targeting Planned Parenthood: In the wake of a recent federal policy change, Planned Parenthood's Ann Arbor affiliate is looking to slice half a million dollars from its budget. "It's a tremendous blow," says Angela Vasquez-Giroux, spokesperson for Planned Parenthood of Michigan. The group's two Ann Arbor clinics were the only providers of

federal "Title X" family planning services in Washtenaw County, reaching some 3,200 residents last year. Vasquez-Giroux says the services will continue, but the group will find it

harder to underwrite care for low-income patients, who pay on a sliding-fee scale.

Title X was created to support family planning services such as birth control, treatment for sexually transmitted infections, and pregnancy testing. It can't be used for abortions—but in August, the Department of Health and Human Services announced it would no longer fund any services at groups that even refers patients to abortion providers.

"That's what makes it so clearly targeted," says Vasquez-Giroux. Planned Parenthood stopped taking the money rather than comply.

Who's DHSS funding instead? An article in the current issue of *Mother Jones* magazine recounts a reporter's visits to California clinics run by a non-profit called Obria. They were awarded \$5.1 million in March to provide contraception and family planning services to low-income women.

As required, Obria doesn't refer women to providers of abortion. But it also doesn't provide birth control, or refer women to clinics that do. Founded as a religious anti-abortion ministry, Obria doesn't even dispense condoms, the first line of defense against sexually transmitted infections.

"We're an abstinence-only organization," the group's founder explained to *Catholic World Report* in 2011. "It always works."

Fitting vintage: After hearing the frustrations of customers discouraged by the lack of size options in vintage clothes, the owners of The Getup Vintage on State St. decided to do something about it: they started their own clothing line.

"I am a firsthand witness to ladies walking in and looking at the first 1950s dress that they see," says co-owner Kaylan Mitchell. "And that dress happens to have a twenty-four-inch waist, and they say, 'Oh, my thigh could fit in that,' and

they get discouraged really quickly about vintage clothing."

"The fact of the matter is that most vintage clothing that was saved is of smaller sizes," Mitchell explains. She cites prom dresses as an example of an item that

might be saved for posterity, whereas "clothes that were of more normal size got passed down [to relatives]. They got used more, they were worn out, they were given to your sister or

your cousin."

So Mitchell and partner Lindsey Leyland teamed up with local seamstress Kristi Kuick to launch the Cosmic Collection, a clothing line that recreates vintage looks in a broader variety of sizes. Using authentic fabrics from the 1960s and 70s and classic designs modified to range from XS up to 3XL, Mitchell and Leyland hope to encourage more people to discover and explore vintage clothing.

Each item is handmade using vintage fabric, so no two pieces will ever be the same. The garments are also designed to be gender neutral, Mitchell says, "depending on the fabric and how daring you want to be."

Prices range from \$46 to \$140 for options including overalls, dresses, blouses, and tunics. Currently the Cosmic Collection is only available at the Getup's store at 215 S. State.

While that might change in the future, Mitchell says, for now, she's happy to keep it exclusively in the real world.

"The whole point for me was selling it in the store so people could try it on," she says. "It's for local people that come in and don't have a size that they can find. As much as I'd love to sell it online, this is a thing for Ann Arbor."



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Elina Vähälä, violin
UMS Choral Union

Sat 1/25 at 8 pm
Hill Auditorium

PROGRAM

Sibelius Snöfrid (Snowy Peace), Op. 29
Sibelius Violin Concerto in D minor, Op. 47
Sibelius Symphony No. 5 in E-flat Major, Op. 82

Presenting Sponsors: Frances Mauney Lohr Choral Union Endowment Fund KLA+H

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HD BROADCASTS: NATIONAL THEATRE, LONDON
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Fleabag

Written and performed by Phoebe Waller-Bridge
Tue 1/7 at 7 pm
Michigan Theater

All My Sons

Written by Arthur Miller
Starring Sally Field and Bill Pulman
Sun 1/19 at 7 pm
Michigan Theater

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Inside Ann Arbor

School Security

The school improvement millage will speed work on building safety.

A couple years ago there was a fire at Pattengill," says Liz Margolis. "We evacuated to our reunification site. With all the hubbub, no one took the visitor sign-in sheet."

For Margolis, AAPS executive director of student and school safety, not being able to verify that all visitors evacuated safely was a problem.

It's not a problem anymore. With the recent deployment of Raptor Technologies' Visitor Management System software, school personnel won't have to remember to grab the sign-in list during an evacuation—they can just access it on their phones.

The district is also making plans to move school offices nearer main entrances.

"That will be a trick for some of our schools," Margolis says, but the current layout at many schools "is not best practice at all."

According to Margolis, the system "really is about knowing who is in our schools." AAPS has long required school visitors to sign in at the office and get a badge. Now, instead of a laminated "visitor" lanyard, they will get a personalized name badge. First-time visitors will also be required to show ID and have their name and date of birth checked against the sex offender registries for all fifty states. People flagged by the system will need to meet with the principal or assistant principal and show that they are not under a court order that bans them from school property.

"The most likely threat is the known threat, such as from a non-custodial parent," observes AAPS trustee Jessica Kelly. While the district already tracks these threats through a platform called PowerSchool, Raptor can "connect the things we already know about custodial relationships and court orders to an automated way to make sure we're getting it right. When we're using just a clipboard and the institutional knowledge of an office professional, there's a lot of chance to get that wrong."

Not everyone is on board with the idea. Eleanore Abell-Owen, mother of two students at Wines Elementary, says that she had

"serious threats and danger aimed at my kiddos" in another city but still thinks Raptor is "a terrible idea. What will happen to folks who are undocumented? Are they banned? The most dangerous people are still the people we know, not strangers, not mass shooters. I'd prefer greater emphasis on supporting our most vulnerable."

Margolis responds that ensuring access to schools for undocumented families "was one of our biggest concerns. We don't allow ICE into our schools." Kelly points to the district's 2017 resolution protecting immigrant rights. Visitors can sign in using passports, birth certificates,

or the Washtenaw ID, and the school principal can meet with family members and make a case-by-case decision if a person is unwilling or unable to show valid ID.

In addition to deploying the visitor management system, this year AAPS also extended the hours that the exterior school doors are locked to include before-school and after-school child care and extracurricular activities. Families dropping off or picking up children now need to be buzzed in. For extracurriculars, they have to meet the activity supervisor at the door.

Why the change? Margolis explains, "Frankly, parents asked us, 'During the school day, the doors are locked, but

when we drop the kids off at seven a.m., the doors are open. Why is that?'"

AAPS trustee Jeff Gaynor cast the lone vote against the visitor management system. "I believe the sum total of the security measures we're taking—this new tracking system, locked classroom doors, active shooter drills—contributes to a sense of fearfulness that is doing harm," he says. "I believe having an open and welcoming environment—with more adults in the school, not fewer—would provide for a safer and more positive experience for our students."

But the district is moving toward more control, not less. It's updating its camera system and making plans to move school offices nearer the main entrance. "It will be a trick for some of our schools, such as Burns Park, which has offices on the second floor," Margolis notes, but the current layout in many schools "is not best practice at all."

Asked if having to wait outside in January might dissuade families from enrolling in chess or encourage them to move Science Olympiad practices off-site, Margolis says, "it shouldn't. We are going to see how that works ... We know that this creates an inconvenience, but we also feel very strongly that it adds a layer of safety instead of just having our school doors open after the school day ends."

Kelly, an Ann Arbor Open parent, likewise is unconcerned. "My experience with after-school hours at my own kids' school has always been locked doors," she says. "It never prevented us from picking them up from scouts or the Rec & Ed class."

In the future, visitors will no longer have to wait outdoors to be buzzed in. Bond money will fund new "secure vestibules," similar to the one at Skyline, throughout the district. The work is tentatively scheduled for the first six years of the bond; an initial timeline is expected to be released this month.

For Margolis, the message isn't "keep out." "This is about being welcoming. It's not about 'show me your ID, you're not getting through this door.'"



MARK BIALEK

AAPS executive director for student safety Liz Margolis says bond money will pay for more "secure foyers" like this one at Skyline High. A computerized "Visitor Management System" is already up and running.



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Inside Ann Arbor

But if you don't show ID, be prepared for a visit to the principal's office once you do get in.

Epic Change

St. Joe's staffers await their new electronic health records system with anticipation and dread.

Physicians throughout the Trinity Health system in Michigan are recommending that patients not make appointments for the week of January 27. The reason: at precisely one minute before midnight on Friday, January 24, the electronic health record (EHR) system Trinity uses to schedule appointments, record medical histories, track test results, and issue bills at St. Joe's and its other Michigan hospitals will shut down. Nurses, IT staff, and administrators will transfer data to an all-new system known as Epic, which will go live in the wee hours of January 25.

Epic

Many health professionals are looking forward to Epic's enhanced charting and networking abilities. But others are expecting some major headaches and glitches until the new system becomes fully operational.

Jackie Lapinski has been working toward this day for two years. "Our network will have the biggest changeover in Epic history," says Lapinski, who's overseeing the Epic transition in southeast Michigan for Trinity.

Many patients love the EHR portals that let them view their records and contact their caregivers online. Many doctors, nurses, and other health professionals also look forward to Epic's enhanced charting and networking abilities. But others are expecting some major headaches and glitches until Epic becomes fully operational—and some find the change so daunting they're planning to retire.

Physicians around the country are frustrated by demands for documentation that have them working overtime and typing on computer keyboards in the exam room. (See "The Trouble with EHR," March 2017 Observer, or the November 2018 New Yorker article "Why Doctors Hate Their Computers.") Patients say they feel the difference, too.

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WCC-1087835_1219

A local resident who suffered a traumatic brain injury in a car accident says EHR impaired his relationship with his psychiatrist. "At first, he gave me all the time I needed for questions and examinations, but as soon as the computer came into his office, our relationship changed," the young man says. "I had visits where the doctor didn't look into my eyes once."

Some specialists use a "scribe" to sit in on visits and make notes so they can focus on their patients. Many more may do so during the early weeks of the new system. Unlike specialists, though, few primary care physicians can afford assistants.

Lapinski stresses the benefits of the new system: Cerner requires "nearly fifty other products to perform all the functions Epic will offer," she says. "The reason for the changeover is a combination of evolving technology and the fact that the current system doesn't connect all the pieces of a patient's history in one comprehensive file ... Right now, it's like a person trying to coordinate four different calendars. There are better, far more efficient ways of handling records—and for us, Epic is the best."

The switch to Epic (which is also used by Michigan Medicine) is indeed epic. Trinity employs 24,000 doctors and nurses, more than 20,000 support staff, and 400 people at its headquarters in Livonia.

"Epic has very high standards for training," Lapinski says, and everyone at SJMH and Trinity will be retrained. The level of training varies from two to three hours for those in housekeeping services to as many as sixteen hours for doctors.

"Last spring we started recruiting doctors and nurses to serve as trainers and internal experts," Lapinski explains. Starting January 1, sessions will run seven days a week, days and nights.

As the January 24 deadline nears, "we'll have people from all across the U.S. here to help us and answer questions," Lapinski says. "We've structured help for the first two to four weeks, to ensure the records are all safe and everyone is comfortable with the new system."

For Trinity, this is just the beginning. "Our Michigan sites are leading the way," Lapinski says. Facilities elsewhere will switch to Epic "in waves, over the next three years," she says.

"Within three years, a patient living in Ann Arbor will be able to visit a Trinity hospital in Florida or California, and the health care professionals will be able to view all the patient's records immediately."

Follow the Money

Michigan Medicine alone raised \$1.5 billion in the U-M's Victors for Michigan fundraising campaign.

It's not surprising that the hospital and medical school collected more than a quarter of the \$5.28 billion brought in during the drive, which closed at the end of 2018. Michigan Medicine attracted 21,944 alumni donors—the third highest



More than a quarter of all the funds raised in the Campaign for Michigan went to Michigan Medicine. Campaign director Todd Baily notes that compared to academic units, it draws support from "a much broader spectrum of society who are primarily grateful patients."



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Inside Ann Arbor

among the university's thirty-six "fund-raising units"—who contributed \$656 million. But they were vastly surpassed in numbers and dollars by 84,927 non-alumni donors, contributing a total of \$841 million. Campaign director Todd Baily notes that compared to academic units, Michigan Medicine draws support from "a much broader spectrum of society who are primarily grateful patients."

Victors for Michigan launched publicly in 2013 after the U had already raised \$1.7 billion in what Baily describes as a two-year "quiet phase." The fundraising units included nineteen schools and colleges in Ann Arbor, the satellite campuses in Dearborn and Flint, and nonacademic units like the University Musical Society and Nichols Arboretum.

No other unit could hold a candle to Michigan Medicine's non-alumni contributions and donor count. The next most successful in dollar terms was the College of Engineering, which raised \$183 million of its \$455 million total from non-alumni, and Michigan Radio, whose wide reach connected it to 64,351 non-alumni supporters.

Unsurprisingly, given the lion's share of the U-M student body that it represents, the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts (LSA) drew top-flight alumni dollars. It came in second to Medicine for alumni contributions (\$425 million out of \$559 million) and second to the Alumni Association for number of alumni donors (25,905). But Conor Neville, assistant director of campaign strategy and initiatives for the Office of University Development, notes that, even so, alumni made up just two thirds of LSA donors.

"Particularly parents is where they're going to get a significant [non-alumni] boost, because they have so many undergrads compared to everybody else," Neville says. A "parents and family" campaign that debuted with Victors for Michigan helped draw \$108 million in contributions from 22,712 non-alumni relatives.

Alumni donors represented a far greater piece of the pie at the law and business schools, Rackham, and the schools of education, environment, and social work—at least 80 percent of their donors were alumni. Neville says students are "very in touch" with those schools and don't take a lot of classes outside them, encouraging "kind of a high loyalty rate" once they graduate. Other units drew most of their support from non-alumni—although, in the most notable cases, those funds came primarily from philanthropic foundations. Professional foundations (distinguished

from family foundations, which the campaign counted as individuals) represented just 384 of the campaign's 398,399 donors but contributed 12 percent of the funds raised.

It's no surprise that a whopping 97 percent of the Institute for Social Research's \$74 million total came from non-alumni, since the research center doesn't grant degrees. What's striking is that the gifts came largely from philanthropic donors. The university counts foundation grants as gifts if the grant is awarded in response to a staff proposal, with no deliverables required other than a final report (as opposed to a foundation approaching the university to perform prescribed work by contract).

ISR director David Lam says federal grants aren't counted as gifts—if they were, ISR's total would be much higher. But he says foundations are quite similar to top-dollar individual donors in the way the university's development staff must communicate about which units are appealing to which foundations, making sure people aren't "stepping on each other's toes."

Lam credits ISR's success to its "socially relevant, policy-relevant work," which is well aligned with many foundations' goals, and to the fact that some of ISR's researchers "are 100 percent dependent on external grants to pay their salaries."

Similarly to ISR, the School of Public Health logged 78 percent of its \$114 million total from non-alumni. Baily says that was raised from "a number of foundations making sizeable but not outlier gifts, not in the eight-figure range or anything like that." Eight-figure gifts did go to U-M Flint (\$57 million total) and Clements Library (\$30 million), which logged high percentages of non-alumni funds, thanks to a large single contribution from the C.S. Mott Foundation and two anonymous gifts, respectively.

Victors for Michigan was a resounding success, far exceeding its original \$400 million goal. But it also brought to the surface challenges that will persist into the university's next big campaign.

Pam Stout, senior director of executive and internal communications for the Office of University Development, says that despite the 392,547 individuals who contributed to Victors for Michigan, individual donors are becoming the U's "weak spot."

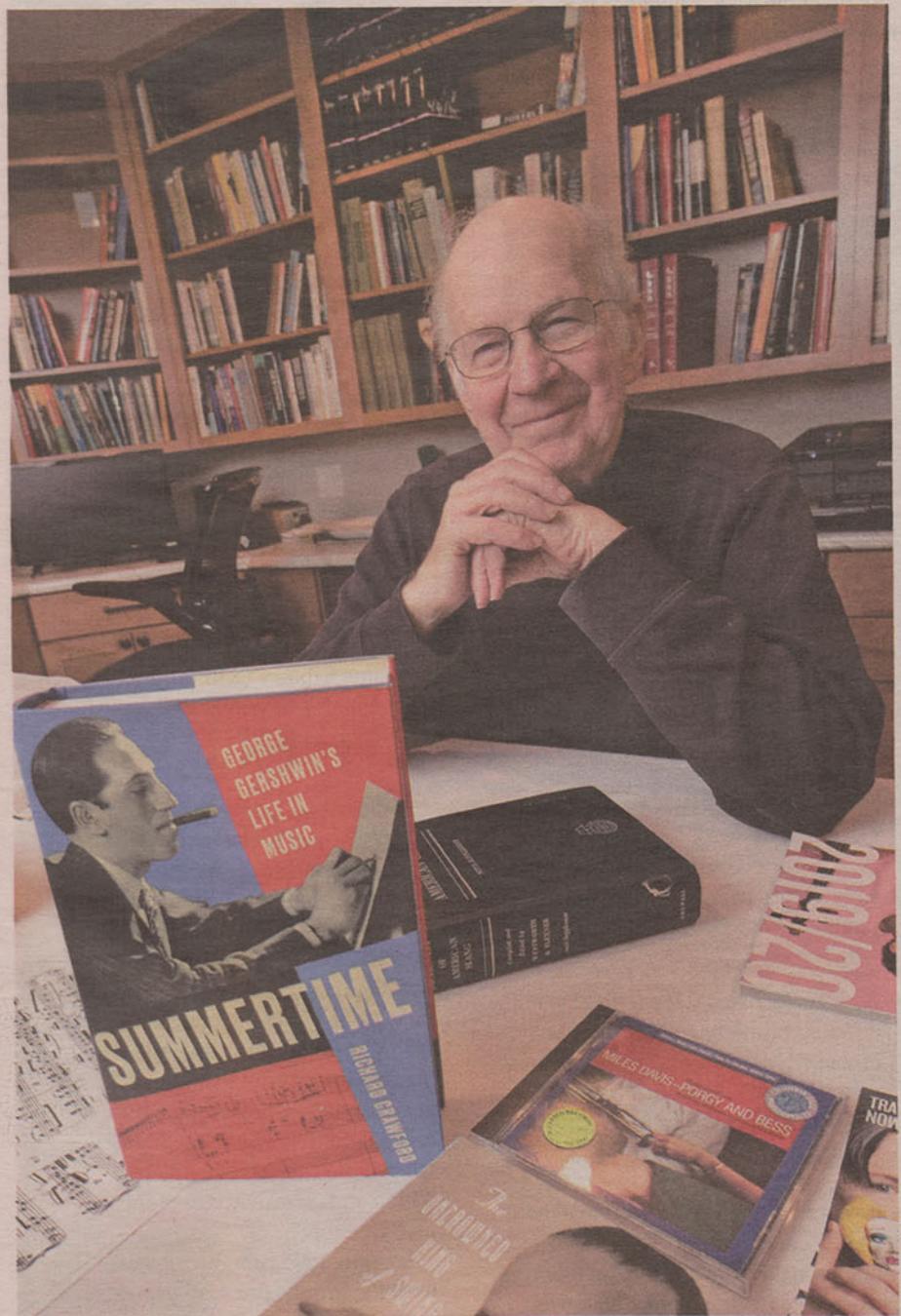
That's due to the rise of social-media-savvy, highly specific, cause-based fundraising—like the "ice bucket challenge," which went viral in 2014 in the midst of the Victors campaign. Participants posted videos of themselves dumping a bucket of ice water over their heads as a way to raise awareness and encourage donations for ALS research.

"Everybody wanted to do the next ice bucket challenge," Stout says. "When that got big, everybody thought, 'Oh, we'll just do this, and everyone will start giving.' But it's hard to be original in that space and kick off the way something like that does."

Though it didn't come up with an ice bucket challenge, the U found some success with what Stout describes as "targeted campaigns for small, niche things," like a social-media-based campaign for Medicine's Paws4Patients therapy dog program. "It was a small effort but an easy way to catch people's attention and see if they might support an area that isn't covered by insurance or patient funds," she says.

Neville says that's a challenging direction to take because the university is "not one cause" but "thousands and thousands of causes, aggregated under the U of M umbrella." But Stout says the "changing landscape of fundraising" makes some changes inevitable.

"As the world evolves in that direction, our challenge is to keep up with that and move our big ship to adapt," she says.



"'Summertime' is the ideal word for [Gershwin's] life," Crawford says. "Once the summertime of his life was over, that was it—that was all the time he had."

Summertime

"Hey, grandpa! How did you write a story 500 pages long?"

That's what Rich Crawford's grandson wanted to know when he heard about the retired U-M music prof's newly published biography *Summertime: George Gershwin's Life in Music*.

Crawford joked that it might have been even longer, but "I ran out of gas."

Asked if he remembers the first time he heard the Gershwin song that gave the book its title, Crawford laughs, "I'll be damned if I know."

"I started as a half-ass saxophonist when I was in high school in Detroit. I was in a combo that played a lot of dances, but 'Summertime' wasn't part of our repertoire."

But it's a perfect metaphor for a composer who died young. "'Summertime' is the ideal word for his life," Crawford says. "Once the summertime of his life was over, that was it—that was all the time he had."



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As a former Museum Friends Board member with a deep appreciation for the arts, Carolyn Lepard is another Ann Arbor institution. She takes pride in the opportunity to experience outstanding art right here in her own backyard. To

her, it's simply another indication that there is no town quite like Ann Arbor, with its mix of cultural elegance and down-to-earth residents.

As one of the area's leading real estate professionals, Carolyn demonstrates her commitment to this wonderful community on a daily basis, delivering *The Spirit of Ann Arbor* to each and every client with whom she works. Her passion for the area is evident from the moment you meet her, and that passion translates into a real estate masterpiece for her clients.

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Inside Ann Arbor

Crawford came to Ann Arbor to study engineering at the U-M in the late 50s, but after a couple years switched to his first love, music—not as a sax player but as a musicologist in the new field of American music.

"I was looking for a dissertation subject in 1961, and it turned out the Clements Library on South University had a wonderful collection of colonial and early American materials," he says. That led to a career as a U-M music prof. He's also a past president of the American Musicological Society, a founding member of the Society for American Music, and the founder and former editor-in-chief of *Music of the United States of America*.

Before *Summertime*, he wrote a history of American music called *America's Musical Life*. "I thought the next thing should be some composer, and there were two composers who really needed a biography," he says. "One was Duke Ellington, and the other was Gershwin."

"I choose Gershwin. I worked on it for the better part of ten years."

One of the book's felicities is its easy familiarity with its subjects. He calls the

Gershwin brothers "George" and "Ira" while the Astaire siblings are "Fred" and "Adele." Speaking of Fred's first dance partner, how did Crawford know what to explain to contemporary audiences about lives lived nearly a century ago? "I was a teacher of American music for forty years," Crawford laughs, "and I sort of know!"

Crawford isn't done with music. "I don't feel like I've retired. I've got a whole lot of stuff in my library, especially jazz. That's what I'm looking at now." It's not too late for Ellington.

But his time with Gershwin was unforgettable. "I felt that to be spending my days in the company of this person was a blessing," he says. *"I often told myself 'you're a lucky guy to be writing this, and you want to be worthy of it.'"*

calls & letters

Problem priest

Detroit journalist Alexandra Ilitch emailed with a correction and an update to our December Inside Ann Arbor article on Fr. Pat Egan.

"The Diocese of Lansing did not threaten to sue" the unnamed victim, Ilitch writes. "The diocese actually threatened to have him criminally charged with stalking." She also sent Internet search results indicating that Egan has moved from Ypsilanti to Hidden Hills, California.

The victim also emailed to correct an error: the diocese apologized for the threat in September 2019, not 2018.

Uncredited artist

December's Table of Contents described the cover scene set in the U-M's Baird Carillon, but omitted the name of its creator. Our apologies to artist Steve Gilzow.



Q. I drive to work to Jackson from Ann Arbor every day. The rest area in Chelsea has been closed for several months now. Does anyone know why?

A. This rest area's septic field is not draining properly and needs to be replaced. MDOT constructed this rest area, and drain field, in 2005–2006. An MDOT representative emails that while they "don't know the exact cause of failure for sure, we believe it was a combination of things. There were a couple of design elements that probably contributed, including using a geotextile blanket that was approved at that time but is much thicker than current standards now dictate. Also, the original design called for a larger dose volume [of ef-

luent pumped to the drain field] than current design suggestions recommend. We think the soil mound over the field may have been sub-standard material and/or too compacted as it was 'hard as concrete' according to one of our MDOT maintenance crew who was doing some investigative digging for us after the failure. They also discovered broken pipe into/at the field that would have caused issues with proper effluent distribution and contributed to pump malfunctions."

The septic field can't be replaced until the ground dries, so the rest area is likely to remain closed until early next summer.

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Co-directed by Kirsty Housley

Wed, Jan 22-Sun, Jan 26
Arthur Miller Theatre

This multimedia show weaves together stories of three disaffected men and their journeys to radicalization and indoctrination, exploring the smoke and mirrors world of online extremism, anonymity, and hate speech in a play that is both in and of our times.

Workshop: How to Become an Internet Troll

Sat, Jan 25 // 4-5:30 pm // Pierpont Commons Boulevard Room

Learn the mechanisms behind internet trolling attacks and how to identify and resist them as they occur. Led by U-M Professor of Information Clifford Lampe.



As Far As My Fingertips Take Me
by Tania El Khoury

AS FAR AS MY FINGERTIPS TAKE ME

Created by Tania El Khoury
Performed by Basel Zaraa

Fri, Jan 24-Sun, Feb 2
U-M Institute for the Humanities (Ann Arbor)
Tue, Feb 4-Sun, Feb 9
Arab American National Museum (Dearborn)

This 12-minute installation performance is a one-on-one encounter through a gallery wall between the audience member and a refugee. Their arms touching without seeing each other, the refugee draws on the audience member's arm while the audience member listens to his story through headphones. Presented in collaboration with the Institute for the Humanities and the Arab American National Museum.



Half Straddle Is This a Room
by Paula Court

IS THIS A ROOM: REALITY WINNER VERBATIM TRANSCRIPTION

Conceived and directed by Tina Satter / Half Straddle
Performed by Becca Blackwell, Emily Davis, Pete Simpson,
and T.L.Thompson

Wed, Jan 29-Sun, Feb 2
Arthur Miller Theatre

On June 3, 2017, a 25-year-old former Air Force linguist named Reality Winner was surprised at her home by the FBI, interrogated, and then charged with leaking top-secret evidence of Russian interference in our voting system to the media. In this production, the verbatim transcription of that FBI interrogation is staged as a play — an offbeat thriller — that reveals a verbal dance between the knife-sharp Reality and the FBI agents. With Kevin Gosztola and Brian Willen.

Pre-Performance Panel Discussion: Reality Winner, Russian Election Meddling, and the Future of America
Fri, Jan 31 // 6:30 pm // Pierpont Commons East Room

Gain special insight about the Reality Winner case as U-M Professor of Computer Science and Engineering J. Alex Halderman sits down for a special pre-performance conversation. The Director of the Center for Computer Security and Society, Prof. Halderman is a security expert who testified about Russian election interference before Congress and was a featured expert on *The Intercept*, the radio show that released the information Reality leaked. With Kevin Gosztola and Brian Willen.

Reality Now: A Discussion with Reality Winner's Mother
Sat, Feb 1 // 4-5:30 pm // Pierpont Commons East Room

Billie Winner-Davis shares her experience of Reality's arrest and updates on her current status, along with journalist Kevin Gosztola, moderated by U-M Associate Professor of Theatre & Drama Ashley Lucas.



White Feminist
by John C. Hawthorne

WHITE FEMINIST

Written and performed by Lee Minora
Directed by Alice Yorke

Mon, Feb 3-Sun, Feb 9
Duderstadt Video Studio

Gender and privilege collide in Lee Minora's scathing morning talk show, which puts the #MeToo movement, liberal guilt, and fake apologies into an absurd and painfully true comedic blender.

Girl Talk: Race, Comedy and Feminism Now

Sat, Feb 8 // 4-5:30 pm // Pierpont Commons Boulevard Room

What are some of the challenges women face in comedy? How are those challenges exacerbated when race is added to the mix? Local women comics will take the stage to share their work and talk about their personal experiences as women of color in comedy today.

ADDITIONAL EVENTS

No Safety Net Opening Talk

PENNY STAMPS SPEAKER SERIES: OSKAR EUSTIS IN CONVERSATION

Thu, Jan 16 // 5 pm // Michigan Theater

Oskar Eustis, the artistic director of the Public Theater in New York, has developed a reputation for adventurous and timely theater productions that have elevated theatergoers' understanding of complicated issues. He commissioned and directed the world premières of Tony Kushner's *Angels in America* and Paula Vogel's *The Long Christmas Ride Home*, as well as Kushner's *Homebody/Kabul*. Eustis launches No Safety Net 2.0 with a special Penny Stamps lecture at the Michigan Theater.

ACTIVE BYSTANDER TRAINING

Sat, Jan 25 // 10 am-3 pm // Pierpont Commons East Room

How can arts patrons also be active bystanders — stepping in to help those who experience dangerous and/or uncomfortable situations from police brutality to office or classroom microaggressions? UMS welcomes Ann Arbor's Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice to train patrons on how to become more supportive, empathetic, and active bystanders in their everyday lives. \$30, advance registration required.

POST-PERFORMANCE ARTIST Q&As

After each opening night performance.

POST-PERFORMANCE COMMUNITY DIALOGUES

After non-opening night performances, UMS will provide a space for audience members to reflect on, discuss, and analyze the performance they've just experienced. Conversations will be guided by experienced facilitators from the community, including Sharman Spieser, Equity Consultant and Community Collaborator.

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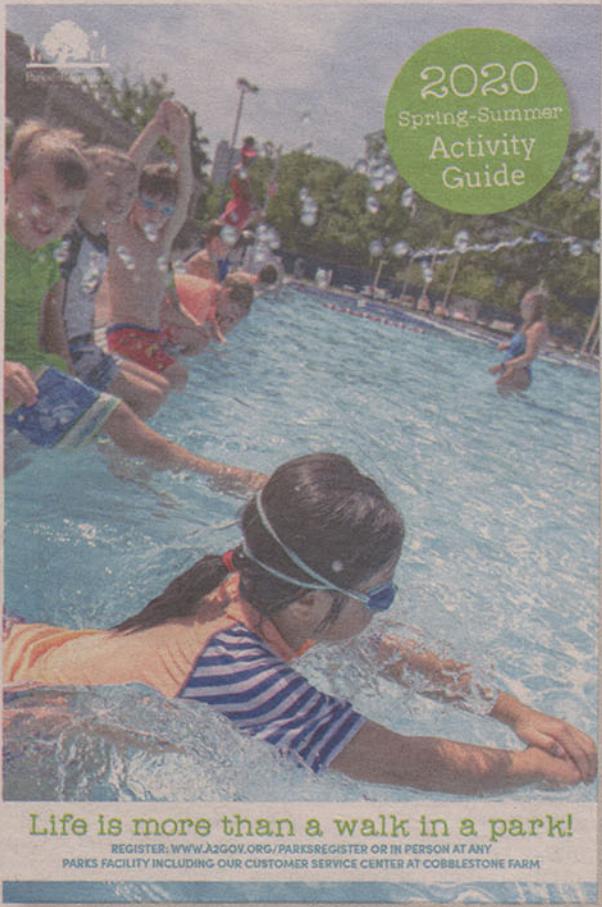
Funded in part by: William Davidson Foundation

Educational programs for No Safety Net 2.0 are funded in part by the University of Michigan Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.



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There are a variety of events and programs at our park facilities from golf and swimming lessons to cultural arts activities and volunteer opportunities.

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Outside

by Bob & Jorja Feldman

Northern Cardinals

Sweet eye treats for all seasons

Female birds are sometimes relegated to an also-mentioned role in avian field guides. This is not entirely without justification; in species where the male and female are not look-alikes, males frequently have stronger identification markings and the female's coloration is often drab and unexciting, at least from a human perspective. But this latter is not true across the entire bird spectrum and certainly not for northern cardinals.

Because the color palettes used by field guide writers are usually not very nuanced, we asked city ornithologist Juliet Berger how she would describe the female cardinal's coloration. "Caramel," she said, "caramel with a red beak and red in the crest, wings, and tail."

When a female cardinal chooses a mate, the brighter and redder he is, the better. With the red offset by a jet-black mask surrounding his eyes and beak, his look screams pizzazz.

The distinct crests and body configurations along with the unique coloration of both sexes make cardinals a pair of easily recognizable local birds. What do cardinal children look like? Our image of what looks like a pale female is actually a juvenile. We cannot tell you whether it is a male or female. Neither can Berger, who says we'd need to wait until after the bird molts to tell.

Berger, who has listened to a lot of birdsong, is especially fond of cardinal music. Both male and female cardinals sing sweetly. The male may vocalize to woo a female or defend his territory. The female may call to her mate while sitting on a nest.



uses a platform feeder and sees more cardinals feeding at the same time. (They are not territorial outside of the mating season.)

If a backyard is not available, local parks and Nichols Arboretum are good places to see cardinals. Berger advises to look generally at locations where there are low trees and shrubbery.

Despite heavy predation, cardinals still do well in suburban areas, thanks to their vigorous reproduction. They have an honored symbolic role in many cultures, including Christianity and Native American mythology. And every year, the winter holidays bring out an abundance of quaint little signs with cardinal images, cardinal statues, and cardinal greeting cards. ■



She spends a lot of time there: mating season can last into September, and she can produce up to four clutches of three to five eggs, with a new flimsy nest built for each occasion. While cardinals are described as monogamous, it is possible that some of those eggs are fertilized by interested third parties, leading to speculation that this is a strategy of wily females (and males) to increase the strength of their bloodlines.

Backyard bird feeders are a great place to see cardinals. We hang out two large tube feeders filled with several pounds of black oil sunflower seed in our backyard. Berger

Thank you

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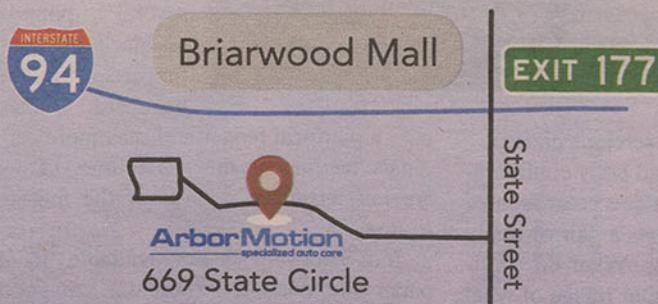
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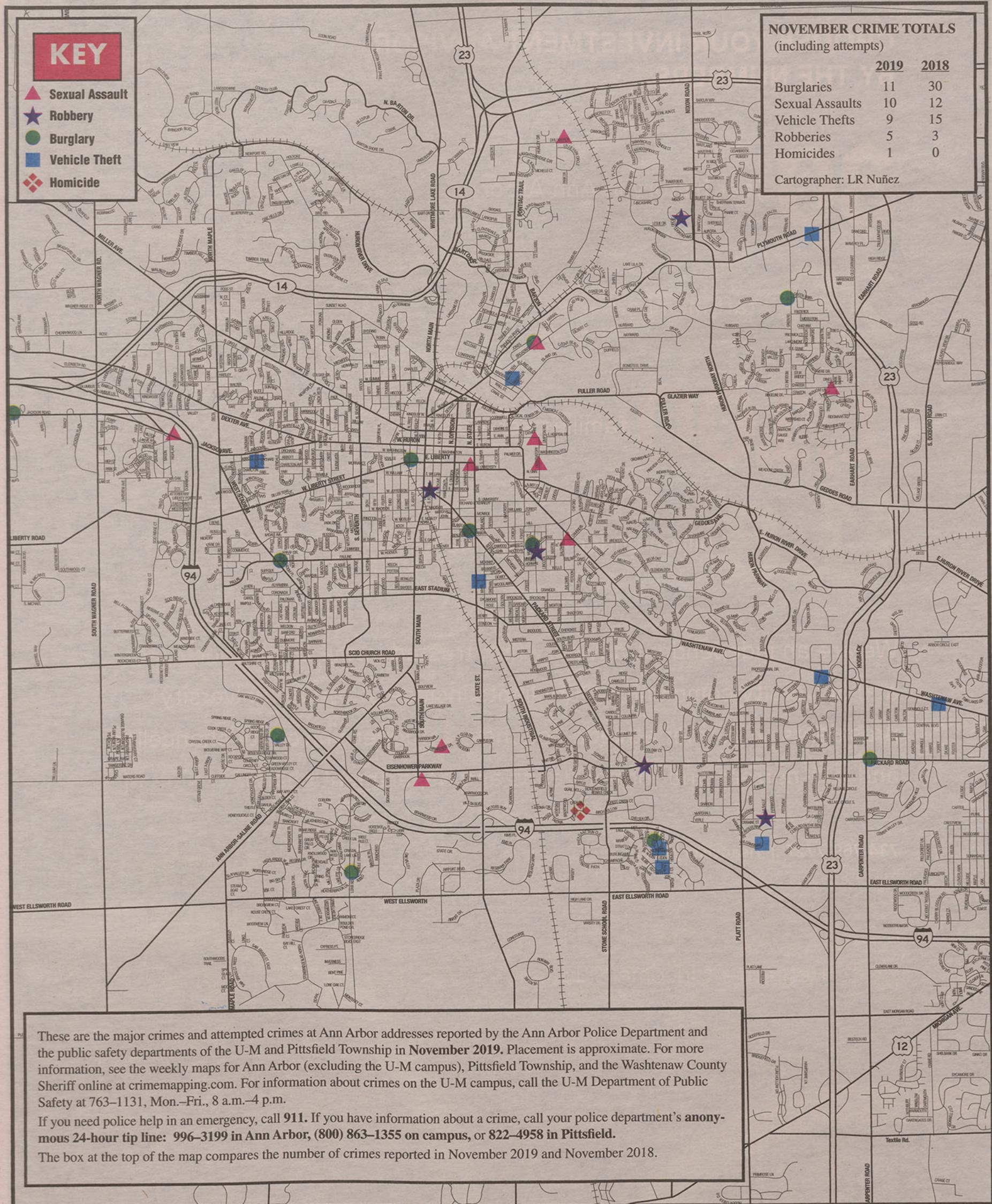
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Ann Arborites

Susan McDowell

The godmother of local women's hockey

"I won't sugarcoat it—it's an aggressive sport," says Susan McDowell. Women's hockey is less violent than men's, she points out, because "checking" (bashing another player to get the puck) is not allowed. But, she says, "any time you put a bunch of people in a confined space and make them go fast ..." She lets the sentence finish itself.

McDowell acknowledges "one fight in my career. It's nothing I'm proud of." She was playing goalie for Maine's Colby College when an opposing player "crashed the net, bowling me over, in an attempt to score. When I went to stand up, I realized she had her stick inside my leg pad and I also felt one of my tendons tearing ... really painful. So I definitely came up swinging. We were both thrown out of the game."

An icon in the robust local women's and girls' hockey scene, McDowell usually tended goal. "I like the challenge of being able to stop the player," she explains. "I like the speed."

"I think it can be a very elegant game and a very physical game."

She's now fifty-seven, and hockey has taken a toll. When we meet at Westgate's Star's Café, she's just come from physical therapy for hip problems that have pretty much kept her off the ice the past three years. She retired from the U-M last summer, and is scheduled for replacement surgery in March.

Clearly tired but still energized, McDowell speaks in a husky voice that frequently breaks into laughter as she explains how she became the "godmother" of women's hockey in Ann Arbor.

She considers herself fortunate that, growing up in South Yarmouth, Massachusetts, her family lived near the Cape Cod Coliseum. The multipurpose facility, since closed, included an ice rink. She and

a handful of other girls formed a small hockey team there. A tall girl who did art, she was something of a loner. But hockey gave her a community, and an outlet for her drive.

"I grew up in a straightlaced New England family," she explains. "You didn't yell at each other and you didn't swear. For me to participate in a sport that allowed you to be physically strong—that helped. It gave me a way to release aggression."

She first came to Ann Arbor as a grad student in what is now the U-M School of Information. After graduating in 1986, she moved to Portland with a boyfriend. They returned to Ann Arbor two years later and married, but soon divorced.

While working at the university as an IT project manager, McDowell immersed herself in amateur hockey. She played on both men's and women's teams and soon started coaching, too.

She met her second husband, Steve McDowell, playing on a summer rec team. She describes him as "an easygoing, funny man. Some years we coached together. A lot of years we were just passing in the rink."

She's so passionate about creating opportunities for other girls and women, she says, because "someone did it for me." In the mid-1990s, she joined a group of women who successfully lobbied the

U-M athletic department to create its first women's hockey team. They wanted a varsity sport, with funding and scholarships, but were rebuffed, McDowell suspects for financial reasons (water polo was made a varsity sport the same year). As a "club" team, the U-M women pay their own way, renting vans to drive to competitions. Though disappointed, McDowell continued to volunteer with the team as assistant coach until 2016, when her hip problem pretty much took her off the ice. She's still a commissioner of the Central Collegiate Women's Hockey Association, which schedules and supervises competition for the U-M and thirteen other club teams in Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois.

McDowell also played a crucial role in organizing the first girls' team in the Ann Arbor Amateur Hockey Association (AAAHA). She coached it for years while also playing goalie on adult teams. An early thrill was playing on a team that won the USA Hockey Senior B Nationals. "The tournament was in Minnesota," she recalls, "and Michigan rarely beats Minnesota in hockey!"

She's currently helping the AAAHA establish a team for girls attending high schools without girls' hockey. "Sue's been instrumental in finding everyone a place to play," says AAAHA executive director Peggy Costello.

McDowell doesn't consider herself a jock, since hockey's the only sport that really interests her. Her other passion is art.

Excited by a glassmaking class at the University of Toledo about fifteen years ago, she began taking more classes and workshops and turned the garage in her east-side home into a studio. Cutting colored glass and fusing the pieces together in a high-temperature kiln, she creates panels, plates, suncatchers, and other objects. She's had exhibits in Ann Arbor and elsewhere, won a couple of prizes, and sells her work online and at craft fairs. Recently she's been working in other media as well, including fiber.

She says her hockey friends aren't necessarily aware that she's a working artist. But her art friends knew, since she'd often miss openings or receptions because "I was coaching a girls' team in Kalkaska that weekend, or with the U-M club team in Chicago."

Late on a December afternoon, McDowell meets a photographer at Vets Ice Arena. Despite her hip, at one point she hoists herself atop the barrier bordering the ice. Afterward, she chats with Pioneer High girls' hockey coach Lea Arend, who played on her AAAHA girls' team more than twenty years ago.

"We were always told to keep a positive attitude," Arend recalls. But when she praises McDowell's patience as a coach, McDowell rolls her eyes.

Gesturing towards a group of young girls with hockey sticks huddled nearby, she says, "Ask them. They were the last team I coached!"

I call out, "Was Sue easy to play for?" Someone shouts back. "Yeah, except when she gets mad and yells!"

McDowell misses skating so much that on a couple of occasions she has strapped on her skates and had her husband steady her as they glide together slowly.

"That makes no sense," she says. But some men Steve coaches, she points out, have resumed playing after hip replacement, "and one guy has had both knees done." She's hoping she'll soon be back on the ice, too.

—Eve Silberman



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Winter Birding for Beginners

Hide-and-seek at Lillie Park

Last winter, as I flipped through Pittsfield Township's Rec & Ed brochure, I paused when I saw the words "birding" and "beginners" together. When I read "spotting them in the winter is easier," I was sold. Then I sold my wife, Elissa, on it!

Though we'd never studied birds, we'd inherited an interest in them: my father and both of Elissa's parents have been birders for decades. Separately, my father has collected data on the migratory habits of multiple birds across the U.S. and studied the piping plover in Belize and hawks in the Western Sahara. Admiring our parents' affection for birds and looking forward to learning more, I signed us up.

Three weeks later, a lazy Sunday found us sitting together in the family room under our fleece throws and humming laptops, our two black pugs lying next to us. I was very much enjoying the relaxing and cozy winter's day.

At one point I looked up from my laptop and was elated to see the sun shining. "I'm going to have to get outside sometime today," I told Elissa. "Maybe I'll take a walk, even if it's only to the end of the driveway."

She asked if we were still doing "that birding thing." I replied, "That's not today. It's in a week or two" and went back to my reading. She was insistent and asked me to check our calendar.

I did, and she was right. With a mere twenty-five minutes to spare, we rushed into action.

We arrived at Lillie Park, binoculars in hand, and met our guide, naturalist Michael Tucker, aka Tuck (tuckstreetadventures.com). It was the first time the class was offered, and to our surprise and delight, Elissa and I were the only two who had signed up.

Before setting out, Tuck took a few minutes to talk about binoculars. We both learned a few things, including that one of our three sets had a bad lens and another was not strong enough for most birding, but our third pair was pretty good.

More importantly, he walked me through how to adjust each pair. I hadn't known that the eyepieces have two settings: extended (for non-eyeglass wearers) or retracted (for eyeglass wearers). Though I'm a wearer, mine were at the extended setting; retracting made a big difference.

He then showed me how to adjust the distance between the barrels to fit my eyes then focus by turning the center adjustment ring—but at first with my right eye covered, so I was looking through the left



Though we'd never studied birds, we'd inherited an interest in them: my father and both of Elissa's parents have been birders for decades. Admiring their affection for birds and looking forward to learning more, I signed us up.

barrel only. Then he had me cover my left lens, look through the right, and adjust the diopter between the eyecup and the body of the right lens. So long as no one else touched my binoculars I wouldn't need to do this again. We were now ready to roll.

The birds were not ready. Though Tuck assured us he had seen a number of them that morning, the woods were quiet that afternoon. For the next couple of hours, we played hide-and-seek.

Tuck was probably the most disappointed among us, but he filled the time

affably, describing how to identify a few of the birds we might have seen. Woodpeckers, brown creepers, and white-breasted nuthatches, he explained, move differently as they forage on tree trunks or large limbs. Woodpeckers (both downy and hairy) walk up the trunk in a straight path with their heads up as they tap into the tree for insects.

Brown creepers also walk up the tree as they search for insects, but move in a spiraling fashion. Nuthatches, on the other hand, walk downward in a haphazard series of alternating diagonals, foraging for

insects and seeds and caching seeds in crevices in the bark.

At one point we became excited when we saw a flock of birds fly over and land atop some nearby trees just out of view. To get them in our sights, we turned down a less traveled and descending finger trail. But as we worked our way through overgrown branches, they took off, crossing the trail too quickly for us to get our binoculars on them. By the time we could see the trees again, they were empty of fowl.

But all was not lost: almost immediately, we came out of the heavily wooded area and into that fantastic sunshine.

Despite the lack of birds, the brisk thirty-degree temperature made for a comfortable walk and an invigorating intimacy with nature. The conversation was engaging, and Tuck gave us just enough information to absorb without our eyes glazing over.

Back home, I filled our feeders and confirmed that we needed more birdhouses. A few days later the feeders were busy. I was able to identify a couple of downy woodpeckers and at least one white-breasted nuthatch.

—Stephanie D. Atkinson

Gifts of Knowledge

Meditations on what comes next

"I didn't know Michigan had a football team," I told my boyfriend when I first moved to Ann Arbor. It was new-person swagger and a little bit of truth. Coming from the land of dawgs and gators, I needed to assert that my life once had a different center. Animals and territory: humans are not immune from complicated relationships with place.

Twenty years later, these allegiances are more on a teeter-totter balance than I like to admit. As I move closer to the other side of life, I wonder not just about where I want to live, but where I want to die. Will some instinct push me to return to Georgia pines as I age? Or will I be held by a generous weave of local friends?

Ann Arbor, after all, is a city of transplants: fewer than half of those who reside here were born in Michigan. The rest of us come from different parts, with nearly one

in five of us starting our lives as citizens of another country. Compare this to Lansing, where nearly three-quarters of the population was born in Michigan and only one in twelve began life in another country. If our origin stories are geographically diverse, do our final resting places follow a similar pattern?

I brought this obsession of mine to one of my Ann Arbor friends. She's thoughtful and deliberate—the kind of person who brings a luxurious chocolate bar to dinner parties for the hostess to hide away for later. This particular evening, she met my odd dinner topic with a story.

One of her other thoughtful conversations had led to a discovery of a secret garden; at least that's how it sank in my mind and made its home. As a volunteer in a medical setting, she'd spoken with a man who was dying.

He had no family to place him somewhere after he died, or visit his grave for that matter. But he had discovered, through a long, tangled trail, the U-M's anatomical donation program. Leaving his body for use in education and research offered him a final resting place with intentionality. In the program, after the body has fulfilled its mission and is cremated, unless a family takes the remains for private burial, the ashes are interred and marked with a plaque at a local cemetery along with other donors.

"I'll have a place I belong after I die," he told my friend with a note of relief in his voice, like someone had carried away a burden. My friend told this story with such wonder, I couldn't help but feel some of this man's relief myself.

We hear more about organ donation, no doubt because it offers such an immediate sense of lifesaving action. I think our societal discussions reflect that we're more comfortable with that process; donating one's body for educational purposes is less talked about, yet occurs more frequently: according to the federal Health Resources and Services Administration, in 2018 or-

gans were harvested from almost 11,000 people after death. No federal agency is charged with keeping track of whole-body donations, but researchers estimate that currently there are about 20,000 per year. The numbers are a bit complicated though; some research groups allow for both whole-body and organ donation when possible.

The appeal for whole-body donation is also complicated. For this donor, anatomical donation spoke to his need to belong somewhere—to be honored and marked at his death in the way a family traditionally might. Many make the choice for financial reasons—depending on the program, cremation and memorial costs are absorbed by the research group. Donors who've suffered disease may hope their body could

He had no family to place him somewhere after he died, or visit his grave for that matter. But he had discovered, through a long, tangled trail, the U-M's anatomical donation program.

pave the way to a discovery that rescues others from the same road. It provides a “reason,” a point to all the madness, something good to come out of the trauma.

As I looked into the program at the U-M Medical School, I discovered that their “Gift of Knowledge Program” has an annual memorial service at Rackham to honor donors. In addition to family and friends it is open to the public and usually has about 1,000 attendees. Med students attend in their white coats and bring flowers to honor those that helped them learn first-hand the structure of a hand, or the ways a stroke can impact brain cells. Finally, the cremated remains of donors that are not returned to family for private burial are given rest at Washtenong Memorial Park, a cemetery off Whitmore Lake Road, with plaques to memorialize them.

I can see why this program brought some sense of completeness to the dying man. But was surprised at the degree to which it brought a sense of security to my own aging understanding of death and where I might end up.

His story became a secret garden for me because it entails the layers of a revolving community—a healthy mix of Michigan soil and out-of-towners, just like Ann Arbor—that is surrounded by old institutional walls.

Finally, I find satisfaction in understanding that where I end up isn’t entirely up to me—that how we handle our dead has an implicit “we” in the cycle. His story was handed to me like a baton by a thoughtful friend who grew up around here and has become a life-long connection for this Ann Arbor transplant. This man is not alone because one caring person heard his story and passed it on—we’re all part of honoring his memory. It helped me understand that the loneliness of death is handled by a reverberating, creative society always pointing outside itself to what comes next.

—Sarah Royalty Pinkelman

Photo: Sarah Royalty Pinkelman

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Then & Now

Recipes for Success

The rise, fall, and rise again of Dr. Alvan Chase

Dr. Alvan Wood Chase of Ann Arbor was the genius behind a national best-seller—long before the *New York Times* best-seller list. He promoted his *Dr. Chase's Recipes; or, Information for Everybody* to “merchants, grocers, saloon-keepers, physicians, druggists ... harness makers, painters, jewelers, blacksmiths ... barbers, bakers ... farmers, and families generally.”

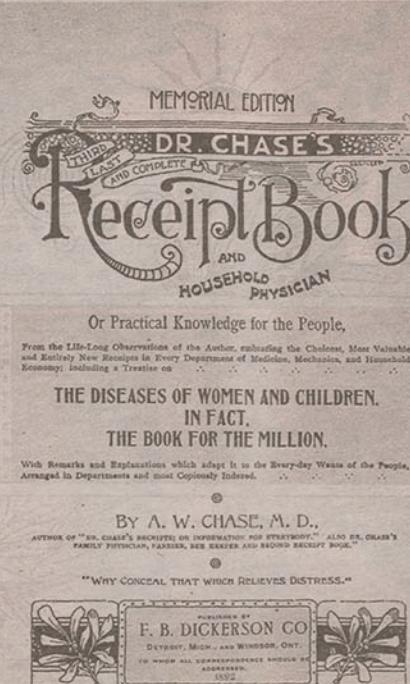
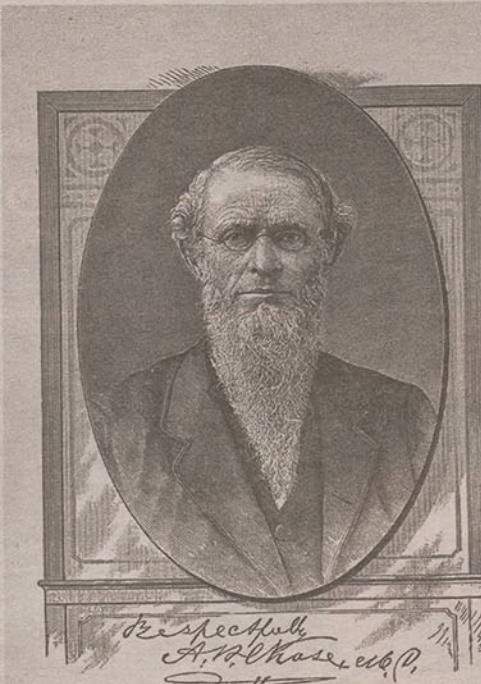
Chase’s kitchen recipes might not tempt today’s palates, since with no refrigeration, salt and vinegar were often used in food preservation. They can also be a little vague. One for yeast cakes, to be used in baking, calls for: “Good sized potatoes 1 doz; hops 1 large handful; yeast ½ pt; corn meal sufficient quantity.”

His discussion of fruit-infused wines and brandies for the home sounds like a Temperance tract, writing under the heading “Spiritual Facts: That whis-key is the key by which many gain entrance to our prisons and almshouses ... That punch is the cause of many unfriendly punches ... That ale causes many ailings ... That wine causes many to take a winding way home.” Yet elsewhere he testifies that the daughter of Wm. Reed of Pittsfield, when bitten on the arm by a rattlesnake, “was cured by drinking whiskey until drunkenness and stupor were produced...”—thus demonstrating that “The bite of the Devil’s tea is worse than a rattlesnake’s bite.”

Most of the explanations hyping Dr. Chase’s recipes focus on pseudoscientific accounts of the operation of various organs, which he purported to regulate through his homemade medical concoctions. Some may have briefly improved patients’ symptoms, only to expose them to far greater long-term risk. Touting his cures for “ague”—chills and fevers—Chase lists a dozen remedies but adds that “any preparation of opium as laudanum, morphine, &c....are valuable in ague medicine.”

Chase was born in New York in 1817. As a young man, he moved to Ohio and then Marine City, Michigan. Seeing advertisements in periodicals for individual recipes, he set upon the idea for publishing his own collection.

Looking to gain knowledge and advance his qualifications, he relocated his family to Ann Arbor to attend the U-M Medical School. Lacking the required knowledge of Latin, however, he had to content himself with monitoring some



Chase’s medical training was limited to a sixteen-week course in Cincinnati, but his marketing skills were superb. Sales of his “Recipe Book” of home remedies paid for his impressive “steam printing house” on N. Main (below). He sold both building and business in 1869, but soon was back in business, printing a rival “Receipt Book” (above) in Toledo.



classes. The M.D. after his name was later acquired via a sixteen-week course in Cincinnati at the Eclectic Medical Institute.

Chase collected recipes and advice from physicians, farmers, Native Americans, backwoods healers, and grandmothers, among others, and assembled them into books that advised readers on everything from treating injured horses to detecting (or indirectly abetting those making) counterfeit money. He launched his publishing business in 1864 on the northwest corner of Main and Miller and was so successful he soon had to greatly increase his space, celebrating the opening of his new “steam printing house” in 1868. He also published a newspaper, *The Peninsular Courier and Family Visitant*.

But soon Chase became obsessed by the fear that his medical printing empire would crumble. His endless immersion

into diseases such as typhoid fever, pleurisy, cancers, and other infirmities also left him with a haunting sense of his own frailty.

Saddled with insecurities and convinced that he was near death, Chase sold his building and business to lumber baron Rice Beal in 1869. But his sense of impending doom proved premature: he would live another sixteen years.

With Beal’s medical publication business thriving, Chase jumped back into the game—despite a clause in the sale contract in which he’d agreed not to engage directly or indirectly “in the business [of] printing and publishing in the state of Michigan so long as Beal should remain in the business of printing and publishing in Ann Arbor.”

By 1872, Chase joined a number of local businessmen to form the Ann Arbor Publishing Company, with himself as president and business manager. First on the agenda was the preparation of *Dr. Chase’s Receipt Book*, which he promoted as superior to the *Recipe Book* he had sold to Beal.

When Beal sued, Chase claimed their contract should be voided as an “undue restraint of trade.” The Michigan Supreme Court disagreed: in 1873, it enjoined him against “being engaged directly or indirectly in the printing and publishing business in this state, or printing or publishing the second receipt book, in this state.”

By then, though, Chase had already set up business in Toledo, though he continued to live in Ann Arbor. He launched his new book in Ohio under the title *Dr. Chase’s Family Physician, Farrier, Bee-keeper and Second Receipt Book: Being an Entirely New and Complete Treatise*. It ran through seven editions between 1872 and 1878, followed by a revised edition in 1880. He also began manufacturing patent medicines, selling by mail order such concoctions as “Dr. A.W. Chase’s Kidney-Liver Pill”; “Dr. A.W. Chase’s Catarrh Cure”; and “Dr. A.W. Chase’s Syrup of Linseed and Turpentine, a certain cure for asthma, bronchitis, sore throat, croup, coughs, colds and consumption in its early stages.”

Despite the competition, both Beal and Chase were successful. After Beal died in 1883 and Chase in 1885, their businesses were carried on by their sons for years to come. In an odd happenstance, Chase’s final resting place at Forest Hill Cemetery is within view of the medical school that denied him a degree.

The last edition of his book was completed only two months before his death. Bound in oilcloth, the 865-page “memorial edition” included nearly 3,000 prescriptions and recipes. It was sold as far away as Australia.

In earlier generations, the material Chase collected and disseminated would have been passed down from generation to generation through oral tradition. While few would recommend following his medical advice today, his tomes are like lost treasures for those searching for old family recipes and archaic remedies.

—Dave McCormick



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Sister Yvonne's Pilgrimage

SHE LED ST. JOE'S GROWTH. NOW SHE'S WORKING TO END HOMELESSNESS.

By Jan Schlain

Sister Yvonne Gellise says she was "too young to know better" when the Religious Sisters of Mercy sent her to Ann Arbor in 1968 to become executive director of St. Joseph Mercy Hospital.

She was sent to save it. What she calls "the old St. Joe's," on N. Ingalls, was "on a three-year provisional license," she says. "So, you know, you've got to do something."

Now eighty-five, she apologizes for her fading memory of the details. But in a 2008 *Ann Arbor News* article, she put the situation in stark terms: "State health authorities had given St. Joe a deadline, says Sister Yvonne. The hospital had to build or close."

In Eleanor Luedtke's book *The Healing Mission: The Practice of Medicine at*

St. Joseph Mercy Hospital 1911-99, then chief of staff Alexander Gotz ticked off the problems: St. Joe's was "landlocked in the downtown area ... We had insufficient bed space ... insufficient parking ... and the Michigan Department of Public Health was beginning to worry us about certain structural deficiencies ..."

Four nuns founded St. Joe's in 1911 in a former rooming house across from St. Thomas Church. When Gellise arrived fifty-seven years later, it was still "pretty much run as a doctors-sisters hospital," she says. "We didn't have much lay involvement ... We really had to reach out to and engage the community. It wasn't easy."

She was just thirty-four, but had a bachelor's in accounting and a master's in hospital administration. And despite her youth, former chief of staff Rudy Reichert recalled in the *News* article, "she was the boss."

"The fracases at City Hall were 'hair raising,'" the *News'* Judy McGovern wrote. Reichert (who died in 2014) called it "a harrowing time." There was opposition to the sisters' chosen site in Superior Township and even to the idea of a hospital run by a religious order.

(Below) Sr. Yvonne Gellise breaks ground for the "new" St. Joseph Mercy hospital in 1976 with fellow nun Sr. Emily George and donor Howard Holmes Sr.
(Right) Sr. Yvonne today.



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Sister Yvonne's Pilgrimage

There were financial pressures and compromises. "Construction was a struggle," McGovern wrote. "We were building before the plans were complete," [Gellise] says, "and raising money as we built."

But in May 1977, the last patients left Ingalls St. for the new 558-bed hospital on more than 200 acres on E. Huron River Dr. Gellise told the *News* they'd only wanted fifty acres but had to take more.

The extra land proved providential. An outpatient building named for Reichert soon followed. Then came cancer, women's, and specialty-care centers, and then, in the 2010s, new patient towers with large private rooms.

Gellise, meanwhile, moved into leadership in the hospital's parent organization. She was a founding board member of Livonia-based Trinity Health, which operates ninety-two hospitals in twenty-two states, and still holds the title of senior advisor for governance at the St. Joseph Mercy Hospital System.

Asked what that means, she says, "I sit on governing boards and governing board meetings, and having been sitting on board meetings for all of my career, I've learned what works and what doesn't." Her friend Norm Herbert says she starts her days in the chapel, does some treadmill walking, and then goes to work, as she has for over

They have a long way to go: in December they were hoping year-end contributions would push the endowment past \$5 million.

"We're not going to reach \$60 million in my lifetime or her lifetime," Guenzel chuckles. "That's the point. It's really ongoing."

"But in my mind, it's [already] been tremendously successful and reflects the generosity of the community—but also the leadership that Sister Yvonne has displayed around these issues. She goes back to the beginning!"

Ghe youngest of five children, Gellise was born in 1934 in Bay City. "I didn't realize that we could have been classified as poor," she says, "because we were cared for, we had food, we had loving parents. And we went to school and got educated."

She didn't talk about it, but news reports say that she suffered from polio in the 1940s which left her with some weakness in one arm and even deeper compassion for the disabled.

She hadn't always planned to be a nun. After graduating from high school, she went to work as a junior accountant.

The women's shelter, she recalls, "was a deplorable thing. We would not feel comfortable, sometimes, having our dog there."

fifty years at St. Joe's.

Amanda Carlisle, executive director of the Washtenaw Housing Alliance, describes her as "a very humble leader." Gellise herself passes all praise upward. When someone tells her, "Isn't it great that you built this nice new hospital and got all this land?" she says she thinks, "It's not me, honey, it's God."

"I just think that if we're doing God's work, then we're going to succeed," she explains. "And if we're not, we're not going to succeed—and probably shouldn't."

She recruited Herbert (a former treasurer of the U-M), former county administrator Bob Guenzel, and others joined an informal "cabinet" to build the Sister Yvonne Gellise Fund for Permanent Supportive Housing Services. The name is a mouthful, but the goal is simple: eliminating homelessness in Washtenaw County.

Their goal, Herbert says, is to generate \$2.5 million a year for services to keep formerly homeless people housed. To do that, "we would need an endowment fund that is approximately \$60 million."

But after three years, she says, "I thought, 'There's got to be more to life than just money.'

Always devout, she began "testing the waters to see if in fact God was calling me." She didn't have to look far for a religious community, because "there were Sisters of Mercy at my family's parish." She entered the order in 1955, earned degrees at the University of Detroit and St. Louis University, and took her final vows of poverty, chastity, obedience, and service to the poor and uneducated.

She says she no longer remembers just when her concerns expanded from caring for the sick to caring for the homeless. "My mom—I quote her frequently now as I'm getting older—she would always look at me and say, 'Honey, it's hell to get old.' I know what she's saying."

But she does remember the ragged shelters that volunteers created in the 1980s. "There was one for men; it was in an old church, which is still there on the other side of the Delonis Center. They were just there through the night and had to be out in the morning."

"There was another spot—I can't remember the exact location now—for women, and it was a deplorable thing. We would not feel comfortable, sometimes, having our dog in there. And then there was a warming shelter during the day."

She took her hospital board members on the same tour, "because we wanted them to be aware of the situation." Then she took them to meet with Guenzel "to

Working with then CEO Garry Faja, Gellise persuaded St. Joe's to kick things off with a \$1 million gift in honor of its 100th anniversary in 2011. The Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation then "matched our \$1 million, so we started with \$2 million," she says. "And then we had I think maybe a \$100,000 donation from an anonymous donor."

Guenzel says it was the cabinet's idea to

The Great Recession put an end to talk of a tax to fund supportive housing. "If you want to make God laugh," Gellise says, "tell him your plans."

see what we could do about raising funds to build an appropriate shelter—and not just an overnight, but to keep people there until they could move out and get on their own. And that's the Delonis Center." Then came Alpha House, a family shelter on Jackson Rd.

Working through St. Joe's, Gellise also helped found the Washtenaw Housing Alliance. Its mission, Carlisle says, is to coordinate "all of the agencies that offer supportive services available for the homeless."

"It's those types of services that are the critical piece," Herbert explains. Historically, groups working with the homeless would provide services first, "and then, once [clients] demonstrate that they are becoming more stable with the supportive services ... we would have considered giving them housing."

"Now research shows that it's best to get the homeless into a housing unit as quickly as possible, reduce their stay time at the shelter, and then provide the supportive services."

"It's been proven that if they have access to the various services—and there is a range of those; people have different needs—we can successfully keep people housed," Gellise says. "And it's certainly an advantage to the community, because it is cheaper to do that than to put people in jail or have them turn up in our emergency room."

"So if you don't have the feeling in your heart for this, then have feeling in your pocketbook. It's an advantage to the community to support this."

But while federal funding was available to buy and build housing, money for services was harder to find. A homelessness task force began working on education and advocacy, with the idea that once people understood the need, they might support a small tax to fund supportive services.

The Great Recession put a quick end to that idea. "If you want to make God laugh," Gellise says, "tell him your plans."

Rather than compete with other human services agencies for funding, Gellise's "cabinet" turned to the endowment. Their goal is to produce enough income to service 500 housing units.

name the fund after Gellise, but "she's been a good sport" about it. Carlisle says they began actively fundraising in 2015, with the goal of \$5 million by the end of 2019.

"Sister Yvonne is very quiet, but she's relentless," says Herbert. "She is intent on seeing this fund grow."

Asked about her life, she turns the topic back to her cause. "I mean, who cares about an eighty-five-year-old lady anymore?" she asks. "What's more important is what this eighty-five-year-old lady is trying to do: end homelessness."

J think one of the gifts I've been given and that I use a lot is the ability to listen," she said. Another is that people listen to her.

"You can't do this work unless it is a commitment," says Herbert. "You become passionate. Any one of us [in her cabinet] would say we are doing it in large part because we know how important it is to Sister Yvonne. Her commitment is our commitment."

He laughs and adds, "She's infected us."

"She has no other agenda except to do good," says Guenzel. "She really is the driving force behind why we keep going."

Recently the cabinet had a retreat—nothing fancy, just a gathering in a St. Joe's conference room with lunch. That's when Guenzel announced that, with Gellise's permission, he was stepping down at year's end. Herbert is staying on for at least one more year.

"It's a big turning point," Guenzel says. "We, the cabinet, as we call ourselves, had certain goals, and we're close to reaching those goals."

But Gellise isn't done. Once again, she's looking for good people to take up the mission.

"We have to find a way to get in touch with more entrepreneurs in Ann Arbor," she says. "Ann Arbor is growing like crazy. Who are the people, and are there any we can touch, who would spend some of their time to be a member of the cabinet?

"That's the work ahead of us. We talked about that at our retreat. Certainly, when I check out, I will keep praying for that."

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GAS & BEER

BY JEFF MORTIMER

WHY IT'S NEVER BEEN EASIER TO BUY BOOZE.

Eight years ago, the owner of a gas station on Washtenaw boasted that his was the only one in Ann Arbor selling beer and wine.

In December the state liquor license database showed nineteen in the city and nearby townships, including all four Speedways and all three Meijers. Meanwhile, both Plum Markets, which already sold beer and wine, had added hard liquor in the fall of 2018.

That's what beer and wine wholesalers and the Michigan Liquor Control Commission and Meijer wanted, and that's what the MLCC and state legislators delivered—both through action and timely inaction.

Licenses to sell alcohol come in many flavors, but retailers selling for off-premises consumption need a "Specially Designated Merchant" (SDM) license for beer and wine and a "Specially Designated Distributor" (SDD) for hard liquor. In the last few years, the state has made both much easier to get.

Before 2016, the state made it extremely difficult for a gas station to get a beer-and-wine license. Requirements included maintaining a non-alcohol inventory valued at a minimum of \$250,000 and a distance of at least fifty feet between fuel pumps and where the alcohol was sold. Liquor sellers couldn't be located within a half-mile of one another.

Then, in 2016, two laws reshaped the beer and wine landscapes. In 2017, a controversial MLCC rule change did the same for liquor.

Michigan is one of seventeen states where the government monopolizes the sales of hard liquor. It resells it to wholesalers, who resell it to retailers, who sell to the public. To limit competition, the state also decrees minimum retail markups. Beer and wine sales follow a slightly sim-

fifty feet to five feet, and the minimum value of non-alcohol merchandise from \$250,000 to just \$10,000.

Under certain conditions, gas stations located on or adjacent to premises also licensed by the MLCC could also get permits to sell beer and wine under the primary location's license. Some in the industry have dubbed this the "Meijer law," since it seems to have been tailored to fit the big box chain's gas stations. The three Washtenaw County Meijers hold the only such permits in the county.

The other 2016 statute established a cap of one beer and wine license per 1,000 people in a city, village, or township. But at the beginning of 2017, before the cap took effect, there was a sixty-day window when the MLCC accepted applications without regard to that quota. The commission received about 1,200 applications, twenty-six of them from Washtenaw County.

The dust still hadn't settled. Late in 2016, the chair of the MLCC, Andy Deloney, proposed rescinding the half-mile rule for liquor sales. The reaction from retailers and neighborhood associations across the state was swift and fierce. The retailers, like the gas station owners who had put a pile of money into inventory, could see their investment in a liquor sales license (reportedly in the \$70,000-\$80,000 range in Washtenaw County) being devalued. Residents worried that liquor stores would cluster in poor neighborhoods, breeding crime and underage drinking.

But Deloney—who has since taken a job with an alcohol distributor—had an agenda. Shortly after his appointment, Deloney told reporters that he hoped to create a system with "as little government restriction and regulation as possible. We're going to overturn every rock and see why

"**SOME OF THESE GUYS THAT TALK ABOUT COMPETITION ... PURPOSELY FORGET THAT THE STATE IS THE MONOPOLY," SAYS AUDAY ARABO, PRESIDENT OF THE MIDWEST INDEPENDENT RETAILERS ASSOCIATION.**

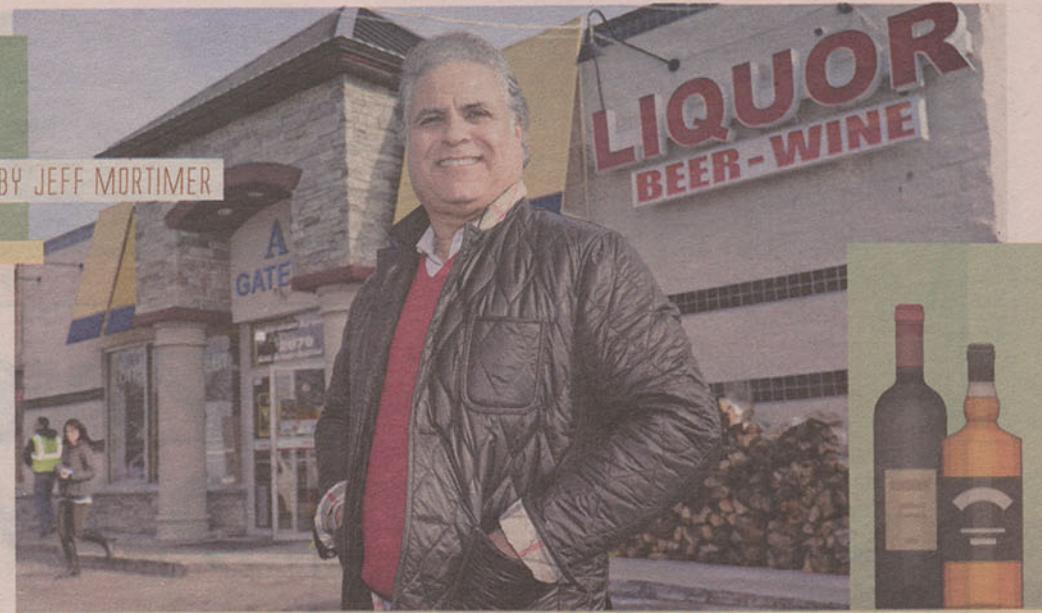
pler "three-tier" system, where producers sell to wholesalers, who are de facto agents of the state.

One of the 2016 laws effectively eliminated the restrictions on gas station sales: it cut the distance required between fuel pumps and where alcohol could be sold from

are we doing things this way. Why do we have this law? Why do we have this requirement?"

The commission rescinded the half-mile rule. Deloney called it "protectionist and anticompetitive" and "an administrative burden," claiming that the majority of denied applicants from this rule were small, independent businesses.

"Some of these guys that talk about competition and a free market for spirits



ABRAHAM AJROUCH WAS ONE OF THE FEW GAS STATION OWNERS WHO REBUILT TO MEET THE OLD RULES. NOW HE'S REBUILDING AGAIN.

purposely forget that the state is the monopoly," says Auday Arabo, president of the Midwest Independent Retailers Association. The trade group sued, arguing that the MLCC had eliminated the half-mile rule without holding a required public hearing.

The commission temporarily restored the rule and held a hearing. In September 2017, more than 100 witnesses spoke against rescinding the rule while three—from CVS, Kroger, and 7-Eleven—were in favor. Twenty days later, the MLCC rescinded the rule again, although legal maneuvering kept it from taking effect until the following April.

"They were never going to change their mind," says Arabo. "They heard testimony, went through their dog-and-pony show, and decided to rescind the rule. In an area where you have four liquor licenses based on population, there could be one on every corner of the busiest intersection in the area. We call it geographic saturation."

The retailers sued again, claiming rescission would cause them "irreparable harm," but that was tossed out. Friendly legislators then introduced a bill to reinstitute the half-mile rule.

It passed the state senate by a 27-9 vote, and it appeared to have enough votes to pass the state house, too. But Rep. Brandt Iden, the chair of the House Regulatory Reform Committee, refused to let his committee vote on bringing the measure to the floor. Iden, a major recipient of campaign contributions from the Michigan Beer & Wine Wholesalers Association did not respond to the Observer's request for comment.

With the bill dead, Plum Market and the Maple Rd. Kroger started selling liquor in the fall of 2018. Both Kroger and the Maple Village Plum are within half a mile of A&L Wine Castle, a longtime package store specializing in high-end liquor and spirits. According to the MLCC, A&L was the county's fourth-biggest seller of liquor in 2017, after the three Meijers and Costco.

"With my numbers, I can deal with it," says Maher Jaboro, A&L's owner.

"I do see some things that we don't sell much anymore, half-gallons, mostly. That's the Kroger people. The high-end market, I still sell what I sell."

A Kroger spokesperson says their liquor sales have "far exceeded expectations," and Plum doubled its liquor offerings last June. But the managers at two other nearby liquor stores, the Ann Arbor Party Center at the Jackson-Dexter fork and Wolverine Party Shoppe, around the corner from Plum on Dexter Rd., say their sales have decreased only slightly.

The Party Center manager, who identified himself only as Mike, credited "a lot of neighborhood support" for minimizing the damage: "We appreciate their understanding that a small guy's gotta stay in business as well."

Before the law changed, Abraham Ajrouch was one of the few gas station owners who'd managed to jump through the hoops to get a license. To meet the state's requirements, he demolished the car wash at his Ann Arbor Gateway Shell station at Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. and Eisenhower, tripled the size of his store, and added a Tim Hortons drive-thru.

After the law changed, the Meijer station across I-94 got a license without doing any of those things. But even though "I got screwed" by the change, Ajrouch says, "I'm glad they changed it. I think it's better for small business people with the new law than the old law."

Not better for him, of course, but he's not standing still. Ajrouch plans to break ground this month on another expansion—4,000 square feet of retail space that he'll rent out.

As the landlord, he won't have to worry about a competitor going in next door. But there are plenty of other opportunities for businesses catering to adult thirsts. Currently, forty-six beer and wine licenses are available in Ann Arbor.



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Liz Thorpe, Author of The Book of Cheese

The best Parmigiano Reggiano hints at flavors of butterscotch, toasted nuts, and tropical fruit, but what sets it apart are acidity and nuance. A well-aged crumble of Parmigiano Reggiano offers a push-pull between sweet, salty, and spicy. Its acidity is mouthwateringly lean, high, and fruity. There is no better pre-prandial offering. A single bite of Parmigiano Reggiano accomplishes everything feverishly planned amuse-bouche hope to: your mouth is awoken and primed for the meal ahead.

Massimo Bottura, Chef from Modena, Italy

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Located in the lowlands of the Po River Valley, Vals-erena is the oldest Parmigiano dairy in the Parma district. It's one of the few farmstead Parmigiano Reggiano cheeses still made—all the milk comes exclusively from the Serra family's herd. The family raises the animals, grows the feed, milks the animals, and makes the cheese right on the farm. Of particular note is the fact that their herd is made up exclusively of the rare and very special Sola Bruna (brown) cows. This old, originally of Swiss origin, breed makes up less than half of one percent of the country's dairy cows. The vast majority of the herds are Friesians, imported from the Netherlands. They produce milk at a much higher rate, but the quality of the milk never matches what comes from the older breeds, like the Sola Bruna.

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RONCADELLA

Wonderful work by the region's only woman cheesemaker

The Roncadella co-op is the only Parmigiano Reggiano dairy with a woman master cheesemaker, Marisa Verzelloni. Roncadella is an "insider's cheese." Italian cheese expert Karl-Heinz Berthold says, "It's in a sub-village of a village that makes up part of the outskirts of Reggio-Emilia. It's a very small cooperative, and unlike most of the dairies in the region, they don't sell at all to bigger consolidators or distributors." One local expert told the Times that he goes there to buy cheese to use at most of his cheese-focused events. "I've bought cheese there many times over the years," he said, "and I never got a piece of cheese at Roncadella that wasn't good." Another cheese lover in the region said, "If you come on Christmas Eve when everyone in the area wants to have only the best cheese for their family, there is always a line at their shop that goes out the door. Twenty or thirty people might be waiting. Other shops—right on the highway and much easier to access—are not anywhere near as busy."



BORGOTARO

Bold flavors from the top of the Parmigiano Reggiano peak

The dairy at Borgotaro is located up in the mountains, about 60 kilometers southwest of the town of Parma and about as far from Parma and Reggio-Emilia as you can get and still be in the region. The dairy is located in the town of Albareto, at the center of the Borgotaro district. It's housed in a practical, but beautiful little squared-off building on a large, clean, hand-laid red brick terrace. The area is known more formally as Borgo Val di Taro, but the name has been shortened in casual conversation to Borgotaro. The father of the late, great, actor James Gandolfini of *Sopranos* fame, came from the village. To give a sense of how things have developed with the cheese over the years, the co-op originally had 300 members; generally each had only one or two cows back then. Today they have only 20 producers, plus five small farms from which they buy a bit of milk. Most of the Borgotaro farms now have 20 or 30 cows. "Our cheese is the expression of the milk of the area," Stefano, the president of the co-op, explained to the Times.



LA VILLA

Organic farmstead cheese from south of Parma

A beautiful farm located up in the mountains, just to the southwest of the village of Urzano, La Villa is located at about 530 meters above sea level. It's owned and run by two families, the Carburri and the Folezzani. Carlo Carburri serves as both the farmer and the cheesemaker and is doing wonderful work in both roles. The farm and everything about it is organic. Sr. Carburri grows all of the crops, which are turned into the feed for the cows, and every day he mills his own mix of barley, corn, oats, and bran for the herd. He's eliminated all of the soy from his fields and hence from the cows' diet—the only person in the Parmigiano Reggiano world, he says, who's done that. He mixes sea salt from the coastal town of Cervia into the cows' feed in order to add natural minerals to their diet. Additionally, Carburri built his own mill to process all the grains for the animals, so that his cows are getting freshly milled grain every day—eating the grains so close to milling means less oxidation and more flavor, which in turn leads to better milk quality!



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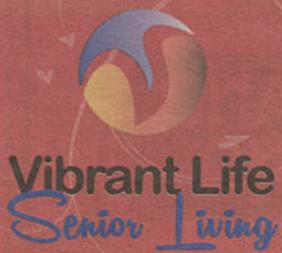
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★ THE PLAY'S ★ THE THING

Ninety tumultuous years
of Ann Arbor Civic Theatre



BY GRACE SHACKMAN

In 1991 the Ann Arbor Civic Theatre (A2CT) moved into the theater of their dreams. A former roller-skating rink on Platt Rd. had been cleverly repurposed by architect John Mouat to meet all their needs.

"There was ample space—a beautiful theater, a board meeting room, three rehearsal studios, and a huge set-building area," recalls Cassie Mann, whose connection with the A2CT goes back to 1976. In addition to a 175-seat auditorium, there was a spacious lobby, a snack bar, and an office. The *Ann Arbor News* reported that the move ended "seven decades of wandering in an architectural wilderness, no more temporary offices and converted meeting halls."

When the Civic Amateur Theatre was organized in 1929, it put on plays in members' parlors. In 1935, it opened membership to the public, inviting participation in both "dramatic interpretation" and "the practice of stagecraft ... including painting and construction sets, making and designing costumes, and the selection of plays and casts."

Since then, openness has been A2CT's defining feature. Board president Jacqueline Courteau calls it "the area's most community-based group. Anyone can propose a show, and auditions are always open."

The group initially met in the Michigan Union, then, after they were crowded out by the post-WWII surge in enrollment, in an 1898 log cabin in Burns Park. The chinking was falling out, some of the windows were broken, and it was so cold that they had to heat up the paint before they could use it, but it had space for meetings, building scenery, and rehearsing plays.

When the log cabin was torn down, the theater upgraded in 1961 to a former water pumping station at the north end of Mulholland (now condos). Mayor Cecil Creal, a big fan, helped make it possible for them to buy the building for \$8,518. With financial contributions, volunteer labor, and donated materials, they created a meeting room, kitchen, lounge, storage areas for costumes and sets, and rehearsal space.

Al Pieper, who built stage sets there, remembers that the work area was so small that "if we wanted to lay a set flat down, we had to open the garage door and work on it outside then haul it back in." One they painted outside in the snow started peeling after it was moved to the warm theater and had to be quickly repainted.

To gain more space, they sold the Mulholland building in 1979 and bought the Elks Hall at 338 S. Main. (The Elks continued to meet in the basement, but complained that the rehearsals upstairs disturbed their bingo players.) Nine years later, developer Mike Vlasic offered them

directed every play for six years, and many others over the next thirty-four.

After getting the job, Heusel married Nancy Born, an actor who had also studied at U-M. Many say she could have been a star on the national scene if she hadn't decided to stay in Ann Arbor and raise a family. She started acting with A2CT after the birth of their first child, playing the lead in *Tea and Sympathy*.

Her husband "let people develop their character in their own way," Nancy Heusel says. "He wanted to bring out their creative selves, to have confidence in themselves." An early proponent of blind casting, in

Ted Heusel recruited Judy Dow Rumelhart at the old St. Joe's on Ingalls St. "We went down to the nun's dining room," she remembers, "me in my bathrobe, and he said 'think Ethel Merman.'"

twice what they paid for the building (it's now the site of his 350 S. Main office building), so they moved seven blocks south to the American Legion Hall in an old house on S. Main, next to the Michigan Stadium (now a parking lot).

In the early days they put on shows at the old Ann Arbor High School on State St. and at Pattengill Elementary. They later became the first outside group to rent the U-M's Lydia Mendelsohn Theatre. They have since used most of the theaters in town, including the Power Center, WCC's Towsley Auditorium, and lately the Arthur Miller Theatre on North Campus.

The Civic Theatre's first public production was *The Late Christopher Bean* by Sidney Howard. Their offerings were usually comedies or mysteries such as *You Can't Take It with You* and *Arsenic and Old Lace*.

In 1950 Ted Heusel directed and starred in his first A2CT show, *The Silver Whistle*, getting rave reviews. In 1954, the board of directors offered him a job directing all their plays and overseeing production for \$65 a week plus a share of the profits. He

★ In 1961, casting Bucky Buchanan opposite Nancy Heusel in *Joan of Lorraine* caused a stir.



COURTESY A2CT

1958, got poor reviews in the *Ann Arbor News*. But they tried again in the 1970s, and have since produced a number of Shakespeare plays successfully.

The *News* raved about their first attempt at a mainstream musical, a 1958 production of *Guys and Dolls*. From then on musicals were a staple. "Musicals filled the theater, but were costly to mount," recalls Pieper.

After 1964, most of the musicals starred Judy Dow Rumelhart, who remembers that time as "the happiest period of my life." Heusel recruited her when she was in the old St. Joe's hospital on Ingalls St. "I was there to lose weight, in those days you could do that, when Ted came to visit me," she recalls. "We went down to the nuns' dining room, me in my bathrobe, and he said 'think Ethel Merman.'"

Rumelhart's A2CT credits include *Most Happy Fella*, *Once Upon a Mattress*, *Hello Dolly*, and *Sweeney Todd*, which she also directed. "She was wonderful!" says Pieper. Mann agrees, saying, "Judy had a commanding presence on stage."

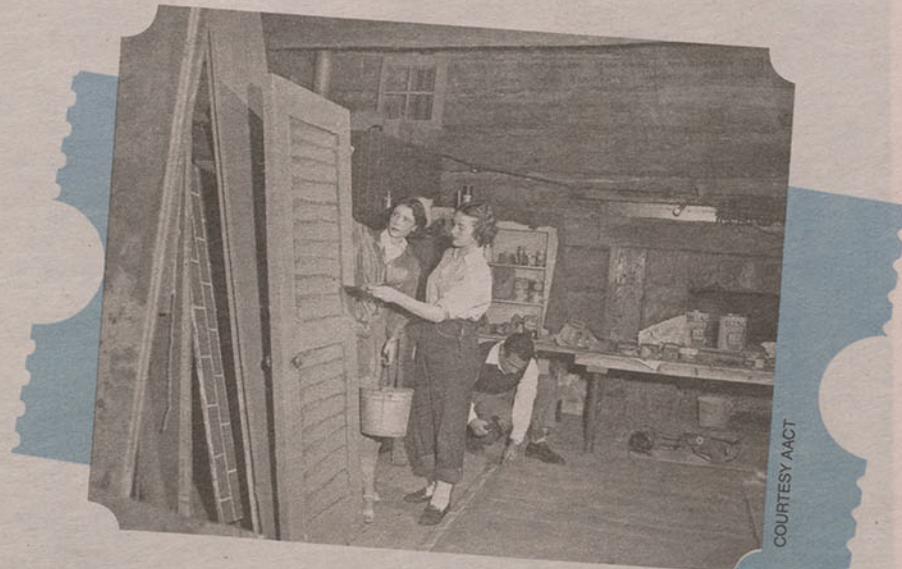
Other talented regulars included Phyllis Wright, Robin Barlow, Beverly Pooler, and Burnette Staebler, just to name a few. Many other actors passed through the company on their way to professional careers. In 1969 U-M student Gilda Radner played the lead in *She Stoops to Conquer*. The play, and Radner, received rave reviews. Radner went on to star on *Saturday Night Live*.

Backstage crews outnumbered the actors on stage. Volunteers changed sets, did makeup, handled costume changes, handed out props, and ran lighting. Pieper called it "orchestrated chaos."

"Casting was no problem," he recalls. "There were actors, singers, dancers in the community, but backstage they had to hunt for volunteers."

In 1976, for *Oklahoma*, they borrowed an Ann Arbor-made Walker and Company carriage. When they needed coconuts for *The Night of the Iguana*, they put in a

★ Painting sets in the log cabin in Burns Park in the 1940s.



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THE PLAY'S THE THING

request in the newspaper for people visiting Florida to bring some back. And when they needed a goat for *The Rose Tattoo*, they borrowed Henry from a nearby farm; in pictures, he looked totally bewildered.

In 2000, after only nine years in residence, A2CT lost its wonderful Platt Rd. space when they couldn't manage a huge balloon payment that was due. "It was so sad," says Pieper, who had found set building much easier there. "The building was perfect for the Civic Theatre."

"We were passionate about art but not good business managers," explains Mann. She says the main problem was the "staggering" cost of maintenance. They thanked Robertson Morrison Heating and Cooling for the reduced rate they were charged when money was tight by appearing at their Christmas party. "This was during the Simpson case, so we dressed as Judge

Using a list of the building donors on old programs, they began by calling them to explain that their investment hadn't been lost. They found more names by going to the warehouse in Ypsilanti where A2CT's possessions were stored and looking at the names on the back of chairs which patrons had bought to contribute to the theater.

Mann and Steward organized a meeting and invited everyone who wanted to get involved. There was no enthusiasm for another big purchase, but people wanted the group to continue. "They couldn't imagine an Ann Arbor without the Civic Theatre," says Mann.

They found a new home in the old American Broach factory on W. Washington, in the theater space that Performance Network had vacated when it relocated to the first floor of the Courthouse Square apartments. Although only a temporary solution—the building was slated to be torn down for the Ann Arbor Y—it gave them time to figure out what to do next.

In 2003 they rented an old warehouse building at the westernmost end of Ann St. and have been there ever since. In addition to a forty-seat theater, there's a lobby, office, storage for props and costumes, and a rehearsal space that can also be used to put on experimental plays.



Of the loss of the Platt Rd. building, Cassie Mann says, "We were passionate about art, but not good business managers."

Ito," says Mann. "Judges' robes weren't that hard to find, and we penciled in mustaches. We ran into the room and did a little dance and ran out."

In retrospect, Mann thinks they should have had a facility manager who could have rented out space they weren't using. Rumelhart, who had been instrumental in raising the money to buy the place, was no longer involved. "I think she was disappointed in us," says Mann.

But all was not lost. A2CT was able to sell the building to the Vineyard Church for \$1.4 million, enough to pay off its debt with \$600,000 left to start again. "We were never down and out; we didn't just walk away," Mann says.

In 2001 Mann and Suzi Peterson Steward, who had been involved almost as long as Mann, agreed to share a part-time paid appointment. Close friends who had often worked together on plays, Mann as director and Steward as producer, they faced the daunting task of getting the Civic Theatre going again.

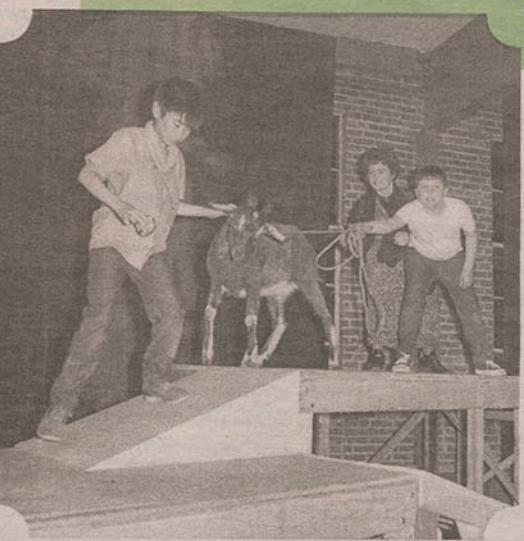
Their first goal was to keep as many of their members involved as they could, but the membership lists had been lost during the upheaval.

Ticket sales, studio rentals, and special events cover about 45 percent of the \$250,000 annual budget. The rest comes from memberships, donations, and corporate sponsorship.

"It's quite expensive to run a theater," says development director Dana Wnuk. She ticks off a list of expenses: rent, heat, water, insurance, royalties, scripts, salaries, rental of venues. Right now she's raising money to improve the lighting system.

In the late 2000s, corporate grants disappeared, but member dues, which start at \$50 per year, kept them going.

Henry the goat was a reluctant star in 1969's *The Rose Tattoo*.



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COURTESY A2CT



J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Alexandra Berneis Hoag (right) took over when Mann and Suzi Peterson Steward stepped down in 2015.

After the Platt Rd. debacle, Mann and Steward were careful to be fiscally responsible. "We only did what we could afford," Mann explains. They kept the \$600,000 they realized from the Platt sale intact, paying it back if they borrowed from it.

Catherine Zudak became involved in the A2CT in 2001, a few years after she moved to Ann Arbor. She was very impressed with all that Mann and Steward were able to do. "When Rec & Ed discontinued their theater classes, they asked Civic if they wanted to do junior theater," Zudak recalls. "Civic said, 'Sure.' When I talked about doing a new play festival in the studio, they said: 'Sounds cool.' Five or six years ago, some people like David Widmayer wanted to start an improv troupe at Civic, and they did. It's very flexible that way." They also added cabaret and outreach activities such as classes, workshops, and camps.

It's not unusual for people to become involved in one program and stay to work in others. Board president Courteau first joined when her son was in the Junior Theatre.

Mann and Steward reversed the traditional play selection process. Instead of the board deciding which plays to put on and then finding a director, they invited would-be directors to pitch ideas. "When they come with their own ideas, they are more passionate," explains Mann. A committee reads the plays and interviews the directors, then makes recommendations to the board.

However, there are exceptions. "Sometimes we need a cash cow," Mann says, "so we decide."

In 2015 Mann and Steward retired, although they both are still very involved as volunteers. Alexandra Berneis Hoag took over as executive director, assisted by two part-time employees.

In November, A2CT celebrated its ninetieth birthday with a party at the Polo Fields country club. More than 200 people attended, sharing stories of their involvement in the theater over the decades. ■

More information about A2CT's rich history can be found on the Ann Arbor District Library's Old News site, where more than 1,000 articles and photographs are posted.

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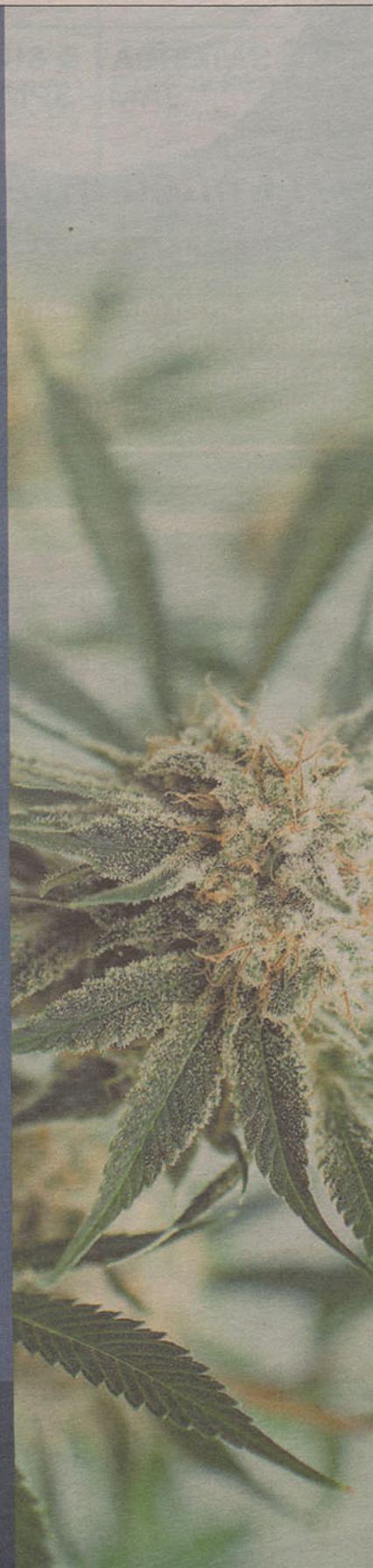
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Restaurant Reviews

The Drive-In in Winter

Dexter's A&W goes year-round.

On a mid-December Sunday, the temperature in Dexter read thirty degrees, and snowflakes mixed with intermittent sunshine.

But cars filled the front spaces at the A&W drive-in at the corner of Dexter-Chelsea Rd. and Island Lake Dr.

Car hops hustled to bring out metal trays of root beer, chicken tenders, and ice cream sundaes, just as they might on a warm summer day, although these staffers were dressed in parkas, ski hats, boots and fingerless gloves.

And, they'll be out there through the winter, barring a storm that shuts down the town.

"Now open all year!" declares green lettering on the A&W's door.

A billboard on the outskirts of Dexter shouts it even more loudly from a mythical newspaper front page.

"BREAKING NEWS," it reads, "Dexter A&W Open All Year!"

Coley O'Brien, the A&W's owner, says the decision was more evolution than revolution for the restaurant, which once operated only from March 1 to the end of November.

In recent years, the closing date stretched to mid-December, then to the end of December, he says. Then, they began opening for the year in mid-February, if the weather allowed, and eventually on February 1. So, it was really only shut for a month anyway.

O'Brien says he decided to stay open in January in large part to requests from the core staff of about fifteen year-round employees. (That figure grows to about fifty during the summer, when A&W adds high school and college students.)

"We were all okay with it," says Bailey Mayrand, an eight-year employee, who brought my food to my car.

"I said, if you want to do it, I'll give it a try," O'Brien says.

He says the restaurant's strong overall performance also played a role.

The Dexter location is the second-busiest A&W in the state, behind one in Monroe, and the second-busiest drive-in A&W in the country, behind a location in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, he says. A&W also has restaurants with indoor seating, which Dexter does not offer.

Moreover, it ranks among the top twenty A&Ws in terms of sales, he says. O'Brien estimates that the average check is just \$8 or \$10, but on a peak day in July, they serve 1,000 customers.

Business is strongest from June through September, and slowest in the winter. O'Brien says his goal is just to post a profit during the coldest months.

KATHERINE DOWDIE



He doesn't expect he'll miss many days, even if snowstorms erupt, because city and county crews do a good job of clearing Dexter's main streets.

Likewise, a sunny day can bring people out, like those who showed up in December.

If you've never been to the A&W, the drive-in works like this: You pull into a spot, and a server comes out, providing a menu if you need one. When you're ready to order, you put on your emergency flashers, and your server comes back out.

Customers can get their orders to go, or on metal trays that hang on the lowered car window. This time of year, it's a good idea to place your hot food inside the car, although cold temperatures are great for the frosty glass mugs of root beer that are A&W's specialty.

Once you've finished dining, you use your emergency lights to summon your server.

The schedule change is the latest in a series of tweaks by O'Brien, a Dexter native who bought the A&W with a partner in 2004 and assumed sole ownership in 2010.

He also owns the Fillmore Bar & Grill, the downtown Dexter restaurant previously known as Terry B's, which he purchased in 2017.

He's updated the exterior and installed an outdoor patio with tables and chairs that has a view of downtown Dexter.

That came because customers with new cars didn't like food smells permeating the upholstery, and wanted to sit outside, he says, with a laugh.

O'Brien says the A&W has become a staple in Dexter. "I hesitate to use the word 'iconic' because that's become a cliché, but for lack of a better vocabulary, that's the word," he says.

Back at the restaurant, the winter sun is starting to disappear as Mayrand comes to collect my tray.

She patiently answers a few questions, then says, "I'm sorry, I've got to run," and scurries to a nearby car.

—Micheline Maynard

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Marketplace Changes

Legal at Last

Marijuana buyers rejoice at their long-delayed liberation.

In 1965, John Rosevear was arrested for growing marijuana in his backyard. His landlord was furious with him. "He thought I was the lowest thing," says Rosevear.

So did the police and courts: Rosevear was convicted and served seven months in jail.

Fifty-three years after he got out, Rosevear walked into his former landlord's office at 321 E. Liberty to check out its newest tenant: newly licensed recreational marijuana retailer Arbors Wellness.

Thanks to a referendum passed in 2018, the sale of recreational marijuana became legal in Michigan on December 1. Hundreds of people lined up that day to be among the first customers at Arbors Wellness, Exclusive Brands on Varsity Dr., and Greenstone Provisions on Ashley.

By mid-month they'd been joined by Skymint on South Industrial and Ann Arbor Healing on Washtenaw, and the lines had finally begun dwindling. When we caught up with Exclusive Brands customer Joel Yoder under the heat lamps at the back of the tent-covered line in Varsity Dr.'s industrial park, he estimated that he had been waiting for only ten minutes.

Yoder, thirty-five, said he's been smoking since his teen years and until recently held a medical marijuana license. He hails from Newport, near Monroe, but was in

J. ADRIAN WYLIE



In 1965, John Rosevear's landlord was furious when he was arrested for growing marijuana in his backyard. In December, Arbors Wellness began selling it legally from his landlord's former office.

Ann Arbor because his township has opted to ban recreational sales.

Yoder says it's a relief to be able to buy marijuana legally and without fear, but others in line, including a man who said he was from Las Vegas and identified himself as "Christopher Walken ... I mean Hawkens," were wary of going on record. Two men cited concerns about their current and future jobs, and all four women we approached gave nervous headshakes at the mere idea of being interviewed.

Rosevear, who ended up walking out of Arbors Wellness empty-handed because they didn't have the variety he was looking for, says that after so many years his own fear is hard to shake. "We developed a distrust of the police, and the police began to distrust us," he says. He says that

at his trial, police brought forth a manuscript of a book he was writing on how to grow marijuana as evidence of a "sinister nature."

Marijuana remains an illicit substance at the federal level, but so far there has been no federal action taken against any of the new recreational marijuana establishments (Michigan had eleven at press time, with more opening as licenses are issued). Yoder thinks the days of raids and banks refusing to work with marijuana-associated businesses are over. "If Trump was going to do anything, he would have by now," he says.

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Ann Arbor Healing, 3792 Washtenaw. (734) 436-4017. Daily 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Facebook: Ann Arbor Healing

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J. ADRIAN WYLIE

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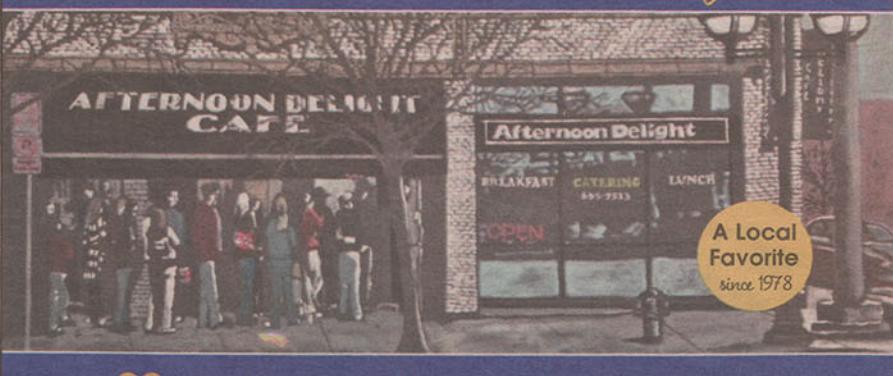
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Marketplace Changes

Baiz acknowledges that with "boba" establishments continuing to pop up all over town, bubble tea on its own might face a lot of competition, but the brothers have added a few twists that are new to the area, including "bubble waffle cones," a Hong Kong-based treat. The cones, Baiz explains, are "kind of like an inverted waffle. You've got a regular waffle with square divots in it. Toss it out the other way and they become circular, like balls." The final product is a photogenic bubbly cone wrapped around scoops of ice cream and

The "Wolverine" features blue ice cream topped with a yellow macaron, blue-iced cupcake, yellow lollipop, blue swizzle stick, and blue and yellow sprinkles. It's a sight to behold.

a generous helping of toppings, held in place with its own paper cone. A rotating host of specialty signature cones include the "Wolverine," which features blue ice cream topped with a yellow macaron, blue-iced cupcake, yellow lollipop, blue swizzle stick, and dusting of blue and yellow sprinkles. It's a sight to behold.

According to Baiz, the store's most popular item by far is actually a free perk—a "selfieccino" machine on the counter will copy any photo you upload to it onto the foam of your latte, using brown coffee extract. He says the machine could actually do color photos too, but he and Issa didn't want to use the artificial food dyes required. Though the "Smart latte printer" BeanBerry sells online for \$1,800, Baiz says he thinks they made the right decision to offer the machine's services at no cost. "My favorite of when I'm there and I see people doing it is [that] there's never a shortage of laughter," he says. "That experience means everything." Plus, he figures the machine has brought in a number of curious customers.

BeanBerry also offers standard coffee shop fare and a bubble tea menu similar to others around town. Unique to the store is the option for pure cane sugar, instead of the standard liquid sweetener in most bubble teas, and jumbo bamboo straws instead of the common multicolored plastic ones.

The large copper-covered counter was carried over from BeanBerry's predecessor **Oasis Café**, which never reopened after its announcement of a hiatus last year. The brothers updated the rest of the interior to feature unassuming dark woods with navy blue accents and a "lounge" area with cloth chairs that sit low to the ground.

In the new year, the brothers will be looking into expanding the BeanBerry brand into multiple locations.

Beanberry, 305 S. Main (734) 929-2415. Mon.-Thurs. 7 a.m.-9 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 7 a.m.-10 p.m., Sun. 8 a.m.-8 p.m. facebook.com/BeanBerryCafe

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Briefly noted

New at Washtenaw Ave.'s Arbor Hills center is Texas-based jewelry store **Kendra Scott**. "We're mostly known for our specific shapes and our use of natural gemstones," says store manager Markie Yager. She says their most frequent customers are college-aged women, "but we also have a lot of mothers and grandmothers. It's kind of catered to all ages."

The chain was founded in 2002 after Scott began making custom jewelry at her home in Austin and selling it to local boutiques. She uses many brightly colored gemstones in her simple geometric designs, and each store features a "color bar," where customers can choose a "frame" for a necklace, bracelet, or earrings, followed by a gemstone, and an employee will set the stone then and there. Yager says a bracelet costs \$38 to \$78.

The store replaces one portion of the center's former large **North Face** store. **Coldwater Creek** will open soon in the remaining area.

Kendra Scott, 3050 Washtenaw Ave. (Arbor Hills). (734) 217-4427. Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-8 p.m., Sun. noon-6 p.m. kendrascott.com

Two years ago, national reuse non-profit SCRAP USA took over management of the Scrap Box, a nonprofit that for thirty-seven years had invited kids to turn all sorts of surplus materials into craft creations. Now they've renamed it **SCRAP Creative Reuse** and moved it from State Cir. to a smaller site next to Glencoe Crossing on Washtenaw.

"Most of the space we lost we actually weren't using," says director Claire Tyra. The original site had a large warehouse area that the new team had cleared out to make donated scrap materials more immediately available to customers. "The floor space is actually a little bit bigger now," Tyra says. In addition to its reuse store, SCRAP will continue to offer workshops and field trips for adults and children from its new space.

SCRAP Creative Reuse, 4567 Washtenaw Ave. (734) 800-4137. Tues.-Sun. 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Closed Mon.

Herman Bennett founded Bennett Optometry on Main St. in 1949, and his son Steven recently opened a second location in Traver Village.

and was very emotionally tied to the office, but what he said to me after [retiring] was 'I think I made a mistake. I should have retired earlier so I was able to do more of the things that I wanted to do—because I love the office, but I would have liked to have done other things.' So that's what stuck with me."

Still, says Bennett, securing that opportunity for himself is bittersweet. "It's a happy sadness," he says. "People spontaneously hug me and I hug back."

Bennett Optometry—Clarkson Eyecare, 117 S. MAIN ST. (734) 667-5306. Mon. & Thurs. 9 a.m.-8 p.m., Tue., Wed., & Fri. 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Closed Sun. 2623 PLYMOUTH RD. (734) 930-2373. Mon. & Thurs. 9 a.m.-8 p.m., Tue., Wed., & Fri. 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Closed Sun.

As part of a larger expansion in Michigan, international chain **Smoothie King** opened a drive-through location in Westgate's new building this December. With fruits and vegetables and options to add vitamins or leave out added sugar, the large menu provides customers the option to choose how healthy, or not-so-healthy, their smoothies will be.

Still to come to the new building off Jackson Rd. is **Mattress World**.

Smoothie King, 2635 Jackson. (734) 822-5020. Mon.-Fri. 7 a.m.-9 p.m., Sat. 8 a.m.-9 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m.-8 p.m. smoothiekings.com

Closings

Westside BBQ on E. Madison off of S. Main closed its doors in early December. Though the restaurant was embroiled in an ownership lawsuit (Marketplace Changes, December 2017), online posts speculate that the proximate cause was the U-M's purchase of the Fingerle Lumber property in 2018. Owner Matteo Melosi was not available for comment, but the university has demolished many of the lumber yard's buildings, and may have plans for this one as well. ■

After more than forty years, Dr. Steven Bennett plans to retire from **Bennett Optometry** in the new year. His name will retire with him, replaced by that of the new owner, St. Louis-based **Clarkson Eyecare**.

"I was looking for companies that weren't just buying [businesses] and then not running them properly," says Bennett. He says the practice's services and staff will remain the same under Clarkson. Plus, he adds, "the name 'Bennett Optometry' will still be visible ... they're still going to have the sign on the door and things like that."

Like the sign, Bennett thinks he might stick around for a while after the ownership transition. "I may come in periodically and see the patients that I've had for thirty, forty years. I'm still going to be active, but it just won't be on an everyday basis," he says.

The office on Main St. was founded by Bennett's father, Herman, in 1949, and Bennett recently opened a second location in Plymouth Rd.'s Traver Village. Bennett estimates that between the two locations, he and his team see over 20,000 local patients. "Most people [in Ann Arbor] have been in the office at least once," he says.

At sixty-nine, Bennett says he wants to travel and enjoy his later years before he loses the opportunity. "My father retired probably in his eighties. He loved his work

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Music at Nightspots

by John Hinchey & James M. Manheim
 Listings are based on information available at press time. Up-to-date schedules are posted at AnnArborObserver.com, but it may be advisable to call ahead. Times are noted only if they differ from the default showtimes listed in the description of each club.

Ann Arbor Distilling Co. 220 Fitch 882-2169

This boutique distillery features live music in its Tiny Corner stage in the tasting room (or on the patio in summer if the weather is nice), Fri. & Sat. 7-9 p.m. and Sun. 5:30-7:30 p.m. **Every Sun.** (except Jan. 5) **Brennan Andes & Friends.** Jazz ensemble led by Macpodz bassist Andes. **Jan. 10: The Dangling Particles.** Lansing Americana quartet. **Jan. 11: The Keyloggers.** Local acoustic pop-folk duo of singer-cellist Becca Lynch and singer-guitarist Jessica Quiroga. **Jan. 17: Fern Whale.** Meditative, soulful, fetchingly melodic folk-rock by the Ypsilanti duo of Tom and Angela Sheppard. **Jan. 18: Monte Pride.** Lansing pop-folk singer-songwriter and fingerstyle guitarist. **Jan. 24: Dylan Tolbert.** Soulful pop-folk by this Three Rivers singer-songwriter. **Jan. 25: Tim Monger.** Engaging veteran local singer-songwriter-guitarist whose pop-rock Americana fuses high-lonesome tunes with evocative tales drawn from ordinary life. Monger has a CD, *Summer Cherry Ghosts*, that Allmusic.com calls "a sweetly nostalgic song cycle, filled with sketches of places and people he's loved, memories he treasures—in short, the ghosts of summers past." **Jan. 31: Winnie Karpov.**

Ann Arbor Marriott Ypsilanti Eagle Crest 1275 S. Huron, Ypsilanti 487-2000

The popular Local Brews & Local Blues music program has relocated from the North Campus Holiday Inn to the Elizabeth Ann room adjacent to the bar in this Ypsilanti hotel. Sat. 8 p.m.-midnight. Cover, dancing. **Jan. 11: FUBAR.** See LIVE.

The Ark 316 S. Main 761-1451

Michigan's leading showcase for American and international performers of all forms of traditional and roots music and contemporary songwriting. Shows almost every night at 8 p.m. Mon.-Sat., & 7:30 p.m. Sun., unless otherwise noted. Tickets are sold in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office and tearck.org, and at the door. **Jan. 3: The RFD Boys.** Authentic bluegrass by these longtime local favorites who have appeared in numerous festivals and on the cover of *Bluegrass Unlimited* magazine. Their shows blend top-notch musicianship with funny between-songs dialogue. They have a new guitarist-mandolinist, Dan Roehrig, and they recently celebrated their 50th anniversary with a new album, *Still Delivering*. \$11 at the door only. **Jan. 4: The Yellow Room Gang.** In-the-round performances by this group of 8 award-winning veteran Michigan songwriters who get together regularly to share their new work. Members are **David Barrett, Jim Bizer, Anni Capps, Kitty Donohoe, Jan Krist, Matt Watroba, and Michael Hough & David Tamulevich** of the local duo Mustard's Retreat. The Yellow Room is the "brilliantly yellow" living room of Tamulevich's house on Ann Arbor's Old West Side, where gang members meet monthly. \$20. **Jan. 5: The Applesseed Collective.** Popular young local acoustic quartet whose music is an enchanting blend of lyric-based folk-rock with Dixieland and gypsy jazz rhythms and harmonies. "It's as if The Hot Club of Cowtown bumped into The Vagabond in a woodland clearing and battled off," says *Americana UK* critic Jeremy Seale in his review of the band's 2013 CD *Young Love*. "But even that doesn't really do justice to their sound, as there are bits of New Orleans, Roma, backwoods blues and a whole lot more in their melting pot." With guitarist Andrew Brown, violinist/mandolinist Brandon Worder-Smith, bassist Eric O'Daly, and percussionist/washboard player Vince Russo. \$20. **Jan. 6: Albert Lee.** A veteran English electric guitar virtuoso whom Eric Clapton calls "the greatest guitarist in the world," Lee is a master of just about every style of Anglo-American vernacular music, but he is best known for his influence on country guitarists, both from his stints in the bands of Emmylou Harris, Rodney Crowell, and the Everly Brothers and from his own "Country Boy," which helped redefine country guitar. \$25. **Jan. 8: Open Stage.** All acoustic performers invited. Fifteen acts are selected randomly from those who sign up (doors open 7:30) to perform 8 minutes (or 2 songs) each. The most talented and popular Open Stage performers are offered their own evenings at the Ark. \$3 (\$2 members, seniors, & students). **Jan. 9: Judy Banker.** A Michigan songwriter known for

Cory Wong

Grooves from Vulpeck's orbit

Guitarist Cory Wong is something of an unassuming rock (or, to be more precise, funk) star. He's almost always seen in a colorful striped shirt and a letterman's jacket bearing his cheeky "Wong's Pizza" logo—his manner is unpretentious; a little nerdy, even. But his gentle demeanor belies his formidable musicianship.

The New York-born, Minnesota-raised Wong is an alumnus of St. Paul's McNally Smith College of Music and a frequent collaborator of Vulpeck, the beloved quartet of U-M alumni whose eminently danceable funk grooves have drawn international acclaim. Like most musicians in Vulpeck's orbit, Wong is technically adept. His jazzy early work spotlighted his nimble guitar solos, and his wah-wah-laden shredding is still a wonder to behold in the funk idiom where he makes his home these days. But funk lives or dies on its syncopated rhythm chords, and that's where Wong shines the most. This is a man who can keep a seemingly infinite groove going—and if there's even a little bit of movement in you, your hips will heed the call.

Talent of Wong's caliber attracts similarly outstanding supporting players. He's worked with several of Prince's former collaborators,

including the horn section known as the Hornheads, as well as with Mark Lettieri, guitarist for the popular jam band Snarky Puppy. There's also always a decent chance, especially in Ann Arbor, that one of his Vulpeck brethren will join him on stage—as vocalist/guitarist/drummer Theo Katzman did at Wong's Blind Pig show last January.

No matter who's backing him, you can always expect a tight band and a warm, collaborative spirit among the players. Though Wong's name may be the one on the ticket, he's a generous front man. He gives each musician ample time to shine and interacts with the band just as much as he does with the audience, almost always with a grin on his face.

Wong's technical craft and joyous funk hooks make for an impressive, irresistible combination. He recently joined Vulpeck onstage for the band's sold-out headlining gig at Madison Square Garden, and robust and raucous crowds turn out for his solo shows across the country.

Cory Wong plays the Blind Pig at 6 p.m. and 10 p.m. January 31.

—Patrick Dunn

funk



frequent appearances with folk stalwart Jay Stielstra, Banker writes songs that explore love, heartbreak, and renewal. This show marks the release of her third album *Buffalo Motel*, which features blues-rock instrumentation and driving percussion. Opener: the Ypsilanti chamber-folk band **Joanna & the Jaywalkers.** \$20. **Jan. 10: Ellis Paul.** Acclaimed Boston-based singer-songwriter from Maine who writes vividly figured, quietly thoughtful songs blending personal and political themes that he sings in what the All Music Guide aptly calls a "dynamic silken tenor." The *New York Times* opines that "despite his success and sense of history, Mr. Paul remains an artist with his eye on the future and an interest in discovering the transformative potential in his music." He brings a new album, *The Storyteller's Suitcase*. \$20. **Jan. 11: Jill Jack.** Sultry-voiced Detroit folk-rock singer-songwriter whose music also draws freely on jazz and country flavors. Her annual birthday shows have amassed a strong following. Jack's 2005 CD *Moon and the Morning After* won a Detroit Music Award for Outstanding Folk Recording. \$20. **Jan. 12: Connie Kaldor & Garnet Rogers.** Double bill of veteran Canadian folkies. Kaldor, a Saskatchewan native, writes songs of the prairies and of women and was recently inducted into the Order of Canada. The *Boston Globe* calls her "a masterful performer, wildly funny one moment, deeply personal the next." She comes to Michigan with *Everyday Moments*, her first new album in many years. Rogers is known for his resonant baritone and his poetic, emotionally potent compositions that the *Kitchener Record* calls "visionary songs of haunting and mysterious power." He accompanies himself on a variety of instruments. \$20. **Jan. 14: G. Love & Special Sauce.** This band has been around since the early 1990s, when they came on the scene in Philadelphia with a loose, spontaneous mix of sounds that treated the hip-hop, R&B, and grunge conventions of the day with total creative freedom. Since then they've released numerous albums (plus several G. Love solo efforts), all with a different musical mix, but all with the same effortless sense of fun and way of combining old and new sounds. They come to Michigan with a new album, *The Juice Glove*. Opener: **Shamarr Allen**, a trumpeter-vocalist from New Orleans' Lower Ninth Ward. \$40 (VIP, \$99.) **Jan. 15: The Small Glories.** New duo from Winnipeg's always vital folk scene. JD Edwards and Cara Luft (formerly of the Wailin' Jennys) offer soaring, anthemic melodies underlaid by combinations of clawhammer banjo, guitar, and harmonica. "Perhaps The Small Glories need to rename themselves," says *No Depression* in response to their CD *Assiniboine & The Red*, "the songs on this album are certainly large and wash over us with a powerful beauty

that pulls at our hearts." \$20. **Jan. 16: Aaron Jonah Lewis.** Acclaimed Detroit-based multi-instrumentalist and Corn Potato String Band fiddler. He's also appeared on recordings of everything bluegrass and old-time to jazz and Turkish classical music. His new CD, *Mozart of the Banjo*, features the music of British banjoist Joe Morley. \$20. **Jan. 17: Glen Phillips & Chris Barron.** Double bill of famed alternative rock frontmen performing solo. The former lead singer of Toad the Wet Sprocket, Phillips is known for writing guitar-propelled anthems that blend a winning melodicism with an introspective, sometimes wry thoughtfulness. Allmusic.com describes his music as "a quiet storm that dutifully blends Cat Stevens' confident huskiness and Jackson Browne's weary but warm observer of all things broken." Barron, of the Spin Doctors, has released occasional solo albums; *Glide* magazine describes his latest, *Angels & One-Armed Jugglers*, as "a rather meandering journey through 11 originals, that touch on jazz, blues, Broadway, and solo performance." \$25. **Jan. 18: Heywood Banks.** Heywood Banks is the stage name of Howell native Stuart Mitchell, a very animated comedian known for his silly musical spoofs, goofy prop humor, and sight gags. Since adopting the nerdy, quietly psychotic Banks persona in the mid-80s, he has risen from a regional favorite to a national star. He's a long-time local favorite. \$25. **Jan. 19: Timbre of Cedar.** Versatile suburban Detroit indie rock quintet led by Marissa Parham, a singer-songwriter noted for her strong vocals and soulful lyrics. They have a new album, *What If Love*. \$20. **Jan. 20: Robert Jones & Matt Watroba.** The longtime former host of WDET's Blues from the Lowlands and an ordained Baptist minister, Jones is a singer-guitarist with a huge repertoire that draws on Delta, Texas, Chicago, and other blues traditions. Folkalley.com host Watroba sings lyrical songs and poignant ballads in a sweet tenor voice, accompanying himself on guitar. This show celebrates the life and legacy of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. \$20 (students, \$10). **Jan. 21: Masters of Hawaiian Music.** Three legends of Hawaiian slack key guitar: **George Kahumoku Jr., Kawika Kahiapo, and Ledward Kaapana.** Kaapana is a National Heritage Fellow who has been one of Hawaii's most influential musicians for decades, and all three are a rare sight in the Midwest. \$25. **Jan. 22: Arkansause.** Four-piece string band from Fayetteville (AR) that blends bluegrass, folk, Americana, country, blues, cajun music, and funk into a high-energy, hard-driving mix. A *Grateful Web* reviewer wrote of their latest album, *If I Were You*, that "I am reminded of the attack plan of a boxer, [with] strong, quick jabs..." \$20. **Jan. 23: Nessa.** Singer-songwriter Kelly McDermott leads this local band in jazz-

Celtic fusion with elements of pop, folk, and chamber music, and African, Caribbean, and Eastern flavors. \$20. **Jan. 24: Mipso.** Chapel Hill (NC) acoustic string quartet whose music is a brand of rootsy country-folk that blends bluegrass-style vocal harmonies with subtle ensemble playing. Recently signed to the durable New England folk label Rounder, the group has new music on the way. The duo of Bridget Kearney (Lake Street Dive) and Benjamin Lazar Davis (Cuddle Magic) opens. \$20. **Jan. 25: The David Mayfield Parade Show.** Americana folk-rock band fronted by Mayfield, a bluegrass-bred singer-songwriter known for his lively, sometimes comical live performances, including those as emcee at the 2016 Ann Arbor Folk Festival. Mayfield's new quartet lineup, featuring fiddle, banjo, and bass, gets back to his bluegrass roots. \$20. **Jan. 26: Kneebody.** This leaderless band brings one of the more unusual improvisatory mixes around. Says a *New York Times* reviewer: "There isn't a handy term or genre for the music that Kneebody creates. It's a band thoroughly acquainted with 1960s free-bop, 1970s jazz rock, 1990s hip-hop and postmillennial indie rock; along with classical postminimalism. (I'm leaving something out, I'm sure.) Whatever the terminology, this group has an audience." Kneebody earned a Grammy nomination for its 2009 album *Twelve Songs by Charles Ives*. \$20. **Jan. 27: Them Coulee Boys.** Eau Claire (WI) quartet whose music blends elements of punk, bluegrass, and rock 'n' roll. They have a new album, *Die Happy*, their third, recorded at Pachyderm Studios in Minnesota where, 25 years earlier, Nirvana laid down the tracks of *In Utero*. \$20.

Babs' Underground

213 S. Ashley 997-0800

This downtown lounge features occasional live music. No cover, no dancing. **Jan. 3: WEMU 5:01 Jazz Series.** With mainstream jazz by the **Roe Bickley Kramer Trio**, local trio of bassist Josef Deas, drummer Jesse Kramer, and keyboardist Rick Roe.

Bel-Mark Lanes

3530 Jackson 864-6095

The café inside this westside bowling alley features occasional live music. Karaoke, Fri. & Sat. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. No cover, dancing. **Jan. 18 Salmagundi.** See Zal Gaz. **Jan. 26: II-V-I Orchestra.** Veteran local big band, led by saxophonist David Swain, that plays late 1930s swing and 1940s R&B. 6-8 p.m.

The Blind Pig

208 S. First St.

996-8555

This local club features live music most Wed.-Sat., and occasional other nights, 9 p.m.-1 a.m. (unless otherwise noted). Also, occasional early shows, usually 7-10 p.m. Cover, dancing. Advance tickets sold at the 8 Ball Saloon (below the club) and at blindpigmusic.com. **Jan. 2: Water Fountain Coins.** Canton indie rock duo. Openers: the Michigan rock band **Social Queues**, the Temperance All-female cinematic alt-pop singer-songwriter trio **3RingsLeft**, the Canton garage rock quartet **Boys N' Ties**, and the pop-punk band **One Small Step**. \$10. **Jan. 3: Equipment.** Toledo power-pop trio. Openers: the Ypsilanti metal-inflected pop-punk quartet **Tequila Deer**, the Milwaukee pop-punk quartet **Honey Creek**, and the local electro-funk band **Space Cadet**. \$10. **Jan. 4: Wakefire.** Detroit sextet whose repertoire is an eclectic mix of Celtic rock, Slavic punk, Americana folk-rock, and baroque pop. Openers: **Pictus**, a nationally touring Michigan trio whose repertoire is rooted in traditional Celtic music and dance featuring Highland pipes, drums, & pennywhistle, and **Crossbow**, a 10-piece Celtic music ensemble from Alendale that plays traditional jigs and reels, along with folk and world music-oriented covers. \$15. **Jan. 8: At-mig.** Detroit-area indie rock quintet. Openers: **Witch-pucker**, the experimental avant-noise duo of guitarist Dan Clark and keyboardist Sara Grosky, and **Satellite Sweetheart**, a Detroit rock quartet fronted by vocalist Tamara Marla. \$5. **Jan. 9: Fallow Land.** Local pop-rock quartet. Openers: the Columbus math-rock quartet **Of Two Minds**, the Michigan indie rock quartet **Chinook**, and the area noise rock punk band **Great Expectations**. \$8. **Jan. 11: Slim Village.** Veteran Detroit hip-hop duo. Openers: **D Vaughn**, a Flint rapper, and **DJ Chill Will**. \$20. **Jan. 18: Electric Huldra.** Local stoner rock trio. Openers: the Ypsilanti psychedelic prog-rock quartet **Strange Flavors**, the raucous veteran Ypsilanti surf-guitar psychobilly band **Las Drogas**, and loud, freshly tailored classic rock by the Detroit trio **Edison Hollow**. \$10-\$15. **Jan. 19: Antighost.** Grand Rapids punk-rock trio. Openers: the Ypsilanti emo punk-rock duo **Daddy & the Long Legs**, the Chicago alt-rock band **Weighted**, and the South Lyon progressive hard-rock quartet **Avalanche**. \$10. **Jan. 22: Mad Pursuit.** Local rock quartet that specializes in 60s & 70s blues, roots, & funk covers. Openers TBA. \$5. **Jan. 30: The Movement.** Columbia (SC) alt-reggae quartet known for its heavy drum & bass foundation. Openers: **Josh Heinrichs**, a veteran Springfield reggae singer-songwriter, and **Indubious**, a Bend (OR) roots-reggae trio. \$15-\$18. **Jan. 31: Cory Wong.** All ages admitted to the early show. See review. Minneapolis funk-rock singer-songwriter and guitarist, currently a member of the popular funk band **Vulpex**. Opener: **Scott Mulvihill**, a Houston-bred Americana singer-songwriter who got his start as the bassist in Ricky Skaggs' Kentucky Thunder. \$22.50-\$25. 6 & 10 p.m.

The Blue Llama

314 S. Main

531-6188.

This new jazz club/restaurant features live music or occasional jazz films Wed.-Sat., 7-10/11 p.m. Doors open at 5 p.m. (early show) & 9 p.m. (late show) for ticketed shows. No cover except for ticketed shows, no dancing. Advance tickets available at bluellamabca.com. **Jan. 8: Nomad: Grant Green Project.** All-star local jazz ensemble plays the entirety of 20th-century composer-guitarist Grant Green's 1965 LP *Idle Moments*. With tenor saxophonist Janelle Reichman, pianist Alexis Lomber, vibes player Peyton Miller, bassist Eric Nachtrab, and drummer Gayelynn McKinney. **Jan. 9: Paul VornHagen Quartet.** Jazz standards by this local ensemble led by veteran saxophonist and flutist VornHagen. **Jan. 10: Alex Harding & Organ Nation.** Jazz organ trio led by Harding, a veteran Detroit baritone saxophonist known for his bluesy, church-steeped style. **Jan. 11: Janelle Reichman Quintet.** Straight-ahead jazz by an ensemble led by this local clarinetist & saxophonist. **Jan. 15: Roe Bickley Kramer Trio.** See Babs'. **Jan. 16: Andrew Brown's Djangophonique.** See Detroit Street Filling Station. **Jan. 17: Keller/Kocher Quintet.** Top-notch local mainstream jazz ensemble led by bassist Paul Keller and vibes player Cary Kocher. With pianist Adam Mosley, guitarist Matt LoRusso and drummer David Alvarez. **Jan. 18: Ron Brooks Quintet.** Bebop-rooted mainstream jazz ensemble led by veteran local bassist Brooks. **Jan. 22 & 23: TBA.** **Jan. 24: Michael Malis Quartet.** Jazz ensemble led by local keyboardist Malis. **Jan. 25: Cheikh Lo.** Ensemble led by this Senegalese singer whose music is an original blend of reggae, Afrobeat, the Senegalese dance music mbaax, and Congolese soukous, the shimmering, sometimes ecstatic blend of traditional African music and dance pop. \$40-\$60. 7 & 9 p.m. **Jan. 29: Pete Siers New Orleans Trio.** Vintage New Orleans-style jazz by an ensemble led by local drummer Siers. **Jan. 30: TBA.** **Jan. 31: Soul Message Band.** Soulful jazz by this Chicago trio led by the celebrated Hammond B3 organist Chris Foreman. \$10-\$30. 7 & 9 p.m.

The B-Side

310 E. Washington

214-9995

This all-ages venue in the Neutral Zone teen center (with a side alley entrance off Fifth Ave.) features a mix of touring, local, and teen bands, usually Sat. 7-11 p.m. Cover, dancing. **Jan. 31: "Battle of the Bands."** Local teen bands in all genres compete. 8 p.m.

The Circ Bar

210 S. First St.

277-3656

This pub in the renovated 2nd-floor space of the former Circus Bar features occasional live music. No cover, dancing. Also, DJ dance party Thurs. 10 p.m.-2 a.m., & karaoke, Wed.-Sun. 9 p.m.-2 a.m.

The Club Above

215 N. Main

686-4012

This dance club on the top floor of the Heidelberg restaurant features live music most Fri. & Sat., and occasional other nights, 9:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m. or later (doors at 9 p.m.). Also, DJs occasional Wed. & Thurs. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. Dancing, cover. Age 21 & older admitted. January schedule TBA.

Conor O'Neill's

318 S. Main

665-2968

Downtown Irish pub with live music Sun. 7:30-10 p.m. and Fri. & Sat. 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Sun.: Traditional Irish Session.** All invited to join or listen to an instrumental jam session. **Jan. 2: Jay Frydenlund.** Chirp singer-guitarist who plays rock 'n' roll, blues, and folk covers and originals. **Jan. 3: Richard Delcamp Duet.** Duo led by local singer-songwriter & banjoist Rick Delcamp, a member of the popular local roots music sextet Bird into Bear. **Jan. 4: Randy Brock Group.** Detroit blues band. **Jan. 9: Adam Labeaux.** An eclectic mix of jazz, folk, soul, funk, and rock originals by this local singer-songwriter. **Jan. 10: Matt Styles.** DJ with an eclectic mix of music. **Jan. 11: Pajamas.** Local pop-rock jam trio. **Jan. 16: Shaun Garth Walker.** Local singer-guitarist with an eclectic, wide-ranging repertoire. **Jan. 17: Bird into Bear.** Highly regarded local acoustic roots-music folk-rock sextet, formerly known as Dragon Wagon, that calls its music "bluegrass folk-rock with a touch of Irish whiskey." **Jan. 18: Isaac Ryder.** Neo-soul & funk band from Flint, led by Ryder, the stage name of South Haven singer-songwriter Joel Rydecki. **Jan. 23: Devon Mitchell.** Plymouth pop-folk singer-songwriter. **Jan. 25: Kayla Drange.** Detroit pop-folk singer-songwriter. **Jan. 30: Jay Frydenlund.** See above. **Jan. 31: Richard Delcamp Duet.** See above.

The CoOp

313 S. State

(248) 756-5153

This intimate downtown concert venue at Openfloor Studio upstairs above Totoro and Ama features live music Fri. 8-9 p.m. & occasional other nights. \$5 cover, no dancing. **Every Wed.: Open Mike.** All musicians invited. First come, first served. 8 p.m. January schedule TBA.

Crazy Wisdom Tea Room

114 S. Main

665-9468

Tea room above Crazy Wisdom Bookstore features live music, Fri. & Sat. 8-10 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Jan. 3: Billy Brandt.** Rootsy, country-flavored psychedelic folk-rock by this veteran Detroit singer-songwriter. He is accompanied by dobro player Dave Falk. **Jan. 4: San, Emily, & Jacob.** Multi-instrumentalist San Slomovits (best known as half of the popular family-friendly duo Gemini) and his violinist daughter, Emily Slomovits, are joined by bassist Jacob Warren to perform a wide range of traditional and contemporary acoustic folk, jazz, and classical music, including material from their CD, *Innocent When You Dream*. **Jan. 11: Bobby Pennock.** Plymouth folk-rock singer-songwriter whose style draws its influences from Paul Simon and Harry Chapin, with a helping of the Beatles thrown in for zest. **Jan. 12: Dan Hazlett.** This Detroit-area singer-songwriter and guitarist plays blues-, R&B-, folk-, and jazz-influenced originals on topics that range from the outlandish to the sublime. **Jan. 17: Open Mike.** All musicians invited. Hosted by singer-songwriter Phil McMillion. Signup begins at 7:30 p.m. **Jan. 18: John Churchville.** Local tabla player, accompanied by several musician friends, who plays Indian classical, light classical, fusion, and folk music. **Jan. 24: Mike Ball.** Veteran Whitmore Lake singer-songwriter known for his quirky, funny, and sometimes heartrending blues and folk-style originals. **Jan. 25: Phil McMillion.** Veteran local folk-rock singer-songwriter.

Detroit Street Filling Station

300 Detroit

224-2161

Restaurant near Keweenaw with live music, Wed. & Sat., 6-9 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Wed.: Andrew Brown's Djangophonique.** Vintage jazz in the style of gypsy guitarist Django Reinhardt's 1930s Parisian swing by a local quartet led by guitarist Andrew Brown. With guitarist Erik McIntyre, clarinetist Tyler Rondo, and bassist Jorian Olk-Szost. **Jan. 4:**

Flea Circus. Duo of 2 veteran stars of the local music scene, boogie-woogie & blues pianist Mark "Mr. B" Braun and drummer Pete Siers. **Jan. 11: Ki5.** Local electronic musician whose songs blend dynamic vocals with beatboxing. **Jan. 18: Flea Circus.** See above. **Jan. 25: Doug Brown.** Americana covers & originals in an array of genres by this veteran local singer-keyboardist who has played with everyone from Chuck Berry & Koko Taylor to the Four Tops.

The Earle

121 W. Washington

994-0211

Restaurant with live jazz Tues.-Thurs. 7-9 p.m. and Fri. & Sat. 8-11 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Tues.-Thurs.: Jake Reichbart.** Solo jazz guitarist. Solo jazz pianists TBA occasionally substitute. **Every Fri. & Sat.: Rick Burgess Trio.** Jazz ensemble, named after the late jazz pianist and Earle cofounder Burgess, featuring drummer Robert Warren and a rotating roster of bassists and pianists.

The Elks Lodge

220 Sunset

761-7172

This basement venue in the James L. Crawford Elks Lodge rec room features soul food and live jazz, blues, & rock Fri. & Sat. 6-10 p.m. Also, DJs, Fri. & Sat. 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Dancing, usually no cover except for DJ shows. Members and guests welcome. **Jan. 16: Hip-Hop Open Mike.** All hip-hop artists invited.

The Habitat Lounge

3050 Jackson Rd.

665-3636

The lounge at Weber's Inn features dance bands Tues.-Thurs. 9 p.m.-12:30 a.m. and Fri. & Sat. 9:15 p.m.-1:30 a.m. Also, a DJ Mon. 9 p.m.-midnight, and solo pianists Tues.-Sun. 8:30-10 p.m. Dancing, no cover. **Every Sun.: Rob Crozier Trio.** Jazz originals and standards by this local ensemble led by bassist Rob Crozier. **Every Thurs.: Cetan Clawson.** Monroe psychedelic blues-rock trio. **Jan. 3: Killer Flamingos.** Rock 'n' roll covers and originals by this popular veteran band from Dearborn. **Jan. 4: Freelance.** Local dance rock cover band whose repertoire ranges from Earth, Wind & Fire and Stevie Wonder to AC/DC and Guns N' Roses to Maroon 5 and Bruno Mars. **Jan. 7: Yellowhammer.** Area quartet led by trumpeter Ross Huff that plays jazz standards and funk. **Jan. 10 & 11: Dan Rafferty Band.** Popular 8-piece Detroit pop dance band. **Jan. 14: Dave Menzo.** This local pop-rock singer-songwriter uses guitar, bass, synths, and other electronics to improvise instrumental tracks on the spot to sing with. **Jan. 15: Jake Arthur.** Local Americana singer-songwriter. **Jan. 17: Sean Z.** Detroit pop-rock band led by singer-songwriter Sean Z. **Jan. 18: 50 Amp Fuse.** Popular Detroit 70s and 80s classic rock band. **Jan. 21: Yellowhammer.** See above. **Jan. 24 & 25: Persuasion.** Versatile Detroit R&B dance band. **Jan. 27: Justin Wierenga.** Grand Rapids progressive rock singer-songwriter & multi-instrumentalist. **Jan. 28: Dave Menzo.** See above. **Jan. 29: Jake Arthur.** See above. **Jan. 31: Atomic Radio.** Detroit quartet that plays 70s-90s rock and pop favorites.

Jim Brady's

209 S. Main

562-1954

This downtown restaurant features live music on the 1st Sunday of each month. No cover, no dancing. **Jan. 5: Jena Irene Asciutto.** Detroit pop singer-songwriter who cites Fiona Apple and Amy Winehouse as influences. 7:30-10 p.m.

The Last Word

301 W. Huron

585-5691

This downtown cocktail bar features live music, Thurs. 9:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Thurs.: The Pherotones.** A wide range of jazz and jazzed-up popular music, from the 1920s to the present, by this all-star local quartet. With trumpeter Ross Huff, pianist Giancarlo Aversa, bassist Brennan Andes, and drummer Wes Fritzeimer.

LIVE

102 S. First St.

623-1443

This lounge features live music Fri. happy hour (late Aug.-early June), 6:30-9 p.m., and occasional evenings. Also, DJs, Mon. & Thurs.-Sat. 10 p.m.-2 a.m. No cover (except Fri. & Sat. after 11 p.m.), dancing. **Jan. 3: FUBAR.** 6-piece band led by guitarist Randy Tessier and featuring vocalist Sophia Hanifi. Its repertoire is an eclectic mix of originals by Hanifi and Tessier and covers of everyone from the Yardbirds, the Byrds, and Dylan to Barbara Lewis's "Hello Stranger," the Foundations' 1968 hit "Build Me Up Buttercup," The Kinks' "Dead End Street," and priceless obscurities like Love's "Alone Again Or." **Jan. 10: Mike Smith & the Cadillac Cowboys.** Veteran local country band, led by singer-guitarist Smith, whose repertoire includes classic country, western swing, and boogie-woogie. **Jan. 17: Medicine Men.** This local quartet plays danceable 60s-80s rock covers from the Doors to the Allman Brothers to Lynyrd Skynyrd. **Jan. 24: Jive Colossus.** Local 9-piece ensemble with a killer horn section fronted by vocalist Shelley Catalan that plays

Ann Arbor
Comedy Showcase

212 South 4th Avenue

Ann Arbor's Original
and Only All Comedy
Nightclub Since 1984

COMEDY JAMM

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS
SHOWTIME - 7:30PM

Ben Moore
January 2, 3, & 4

- Bob and Tom Radio Show
- The Funniest Person in Lexington winner

January 9 COMEDY RUMBLE

Bret's Birthday Show

SUPER FAST-PACED COMEDY COMPETITION, AN ALTERNATIVE TO THE TRADITIONAL COMEDY CONTEST. 30 COMEDIANS DOING 90 SECONDS OF MATERIAL EACH. NO TIME FOR FILLER, JUST JOKES.

Roy Wood Jr.
January 10 & 11

- Correspondent on 'The Daily Show' w/ Trevor Noah'
- 2016 'Variety' magazine - One of 10 Comics to watch
- TBS sitcom, Sullivan and Son

SPECIAL ENGAGEMENT

Andy Hendrickson
January 16, 17, & 18

- HBO's "U.S. Comedy Arts Festival"
- The Late Show with David Letterman

Brad Wenzel
January 23, 24, & 25

- Conan - 3 times
- Numerous Comedy Festivals
- & much, much more

Joe DeVito
January 30, 31, & February 1

- CBS 'The Late Late Show with Craig Ferguson'
- BBC's 'The World Stands Up'

SHOWTIMES

Wednesday 7:30pm
Wednesday is Open Mic Comedy Jamm

Thursday 7:30pm.
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Music at Nightspots

Afro-Caribbean, funk, rock, and blues dance music. **Jan. 31: Hoodang.** Local ensemble led by singer-songwriter and guitarist David Rossiter that plays wry, pungent alt-country whose musical roots range from English murder ballads and roadhouse blues to various modes of hardcore country and on its new CD *Blue Yodel*, a generous helping of insinuating country-rock.

Lo-Fi

220 S. Main (lower level) 369-6070
Casual bar beneath the Nightcap cocktail lounge features occasional live music. Cover, dancing. January schedule TBA.

Mash

211 E. Washington 222-4095

This lounge in the basement of the Blue Tractor tavern features live music Wed. 9 p.m.–midnight and Thurs.–Sat. & occasional other nights, 10 p.m.–2 a.m. Weekend happy hour music, 6–9 p.m. Dancing, no cover. **Jan. 2: Twenty TwentyFour.** Toledo ensemble whose music is an eclectic, danceable mix of jazz, funk, R&B, soul, and rock. **Jan. 3: Robert Johnson.** Solo acoustic folk and blues by this Northville singer-guitarist. 6–9 p.m. **Jan. 3: The Bluescasters.** High energy blues-infused rock 'n' roll by this local quartet. **Jan. 4: Dan Orcutt.** Veteran local folk-rock singer-songwriter. 6–9 p.m. **Jan. 4: The Invasion.** British Invasion cover quartet from Redford led by singer-guitarist David Roof. **Jan. 8: Sugartips Acoustic.** Acoustic postpunk rock cover duo from suburban Detroit. **Jan. 9: The Urban Legend Trio.** Soul-based music by this Toledo ensemble whose music also draws on elements of blues, funk, R&B, and jazz. **Jan. 10: Mia Green.** Young Detroit-area pop-folk singer-songwriter. 6–9 p.m. **Jan. 10: Nobody's Business.** Redford blues and blues-rock band. **Jan. 11: Mike Vial.** Local folk-rock singer-songwriter. 6–9 p.m. **Jan. 11: Detroit's Own Soul Purpose.** An eclectic mix of genres from funk and blues-rock to hard country by this Westland quintet fronted by vocalist Carol Holmes. **Jan. 15: David Roof.** Local blues-rock singer-guitarist. **Jan. 16: Michael May & the Messarounders.** Jazz-inflected blues and blues-rock by this veteran local quartet led by vocalist and blues harpist May. **Jan. 17: Robert Johnson.** See above. 6–9 p.m. **Jan. 17: Chris Canas Band.** Detroit blues band fronted by blues vocalist and virtuoso guitarist Canas. **Jan. 18: Matt Boylan.** Covers and originals by this local pop-folk singer-guitarist. 6–9 p.m. **Jan. 18: JD & the Salingers.** Postmodern pop with strains of country, soul, and punk by this local band fronted by singer-songwriter Jason Dean. **Jan. 22: Reeds 'n' Steel.** Acoustic jazz-inflected blues and blues-rock by the duo of singer and harmonica player Michael May and a guitarist TBA. **Jan. 23: Twenty TwentyFour.** See above. **Jan. 24: Jason Dean.** Local postmodern pop singer-songwriter. 6–9 p.m. **Jan. 24: The Scott Martin Band.** Canton alt-country-rock quartet led by singer-songwriter Martin. **Jan. 25: Mike Vial.** See above. 6–9 p.m. **Jan. 25: Pajamas.** Local pop-rock jam trio. **Jan. 29: Twenty TwentyFour Duo.** Duo from this Toledo band (see above). **Jan. 30: Fangs & Twang.** Ypsilanti trio of Black Jake & the Carnies members that plays twangy, high-energy country rock, with songs about vampires, mummies, and other fantastical creatures. **Jan. 31: Reeds 'n' Steel.** See above. 6–9 p.m. **Jan. 31: The Invasion.** See above.

Old Town

122 W. Liberty 662-9291

This downtown corner bar features live music Sun., Wed., & occasional other nights, 8–10 p.m. No dancing, no cover. The performers are usually accompanied by various drop-in friends. **Jan. 1: Chris Buhalis.** This local singer-songwriter performs his 21st annual tribute to Hank Williams and Townes Van Zandt to mark the anniversary of their deaths. He's accompanied by dobro player Dave Kney. 5 p.m. until he's done. **Jan. 5: Mark Jewett.** Detroit-area Americana pop-rock singer-songwriter whose latest CD is *Love Has No Heart of Its Own*. **Jan. 8: June 5: Bob Sweet Quartet.** Jazz ensemble led by drummer Sweet, with saxophonist Andrew Bishop, guitarist Max Bowen, & bassist Kurt Krahne. **Jan. 12: Jen Sygit.** Lansing singer-songwriter and guitarist known for her bluesy lyrics, down-home music, and sultry vocals. **Jan. 15: Pete Siers Trio.** Vintage New Orleans and Chicago-style jazz by an ensemble led by local drummer Siers. **Jan. 19: Bowditch Brothers.** Vintage country and old-time music by this local trio led by singer-guitarist Mike Smith and featuring 2 other members of the Cadillac Cowboys, bassist Gary Munce and pianist and mandolinist Kelly Schmidt. **Jan. 22: Brennan Andes & Friends.** See Ann Arbor Distilling. **Jan. 26: Midwest Territory Band.** Local acoustic trio led by blues-oriented vocalist and guitar virtuoso Rollie Tussing. With bassist Serge van der Voo and percussionist Jim Carey. **Jan. 29: Tariq Gardner's Evening Star.** Afrocentric jazz by this Detroit ensemble led by drummer Gardner, a recent U-M music school grad.

Midwest Territory Band. Local acoustic trio led by blues-oriented vocalist and guitar virtuoso Rollie Tussing. With bassist Serge van der Voo and percussionist Jim Carey. **Jan. 29: Tariq Gardner's Evening Star.** Afrocentric jazz by this Detroit ensemble led by drummer Gardner, a recent U-M music school grad.

Oz's Music Environment

1920 Packard 662-8283

This storefront next to Oz's music store features live music 1st & 4th Tues. and every Thurs. 7:30–9:30 p.m. Cover by donation, no dancing. **Every Thurs.: "Guitarist Network."** All guitarists invited for a weekly jam session and group lesson that concludes with a group performance. 7:30–9 p.m. **Jan. 7: "Songwriters Open Mike."** All songwriters invited. Hosted by Jim Novak. **Jan. 14: "Anything Goes Open Stage."** All acoustic musicians invited. Hosted by Jim Novak. **Jan. 28: "Ukulele Jam."** Musicians of all ability levels invited. Hosted by the Tree Town Uke ensemble; chords provided.

The Ravens Club

207 S. Main 214-0400

This downtown bar & grill features live music, Sun. 8–11 p.m., Mon. 8–10:30 p.m., & Tues. 6–8 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Sun.: "Sol Jazz Sundays."** A house band—trumpeter Ingrid Racine, keyboardist Michael Malis, bassist Josef Deas, & drummer Jesse Kramer—is joined by different guests each week. **Every Mon.: Justin Walter's Poe Boys.** Traditional jazz stoms, shuffles, and 1920s–1930s show tunes by this local ensemble led by trumpeter & cornetist Justin Walter. With saxophonist-clarinetist Chris Tabaczynski, guitarist-banjoist Erik McIntyre, and sousaphonist Chris Smith. **Every Tues.: Chris Buhalis.** Popular local singer-songwriter who sings engaging, fresh-minded folk-country originals, often with an acerbic topical edge, in a rich, warm voice. His latest CD, *Big Car Town*, is a collection of songs exploring and celebrating his working-class heritage.

Rumpus Room

510 N. Main, Chelsea

therumpusroomchelsea.com

Music room inside Jet's Pizza features film screenings Tues. 8 p.m., trivia Wed. 7 p.m., and occasional live music, 8–11 p.m. Cover, dancing. **Jan. 3: "Comedy Night."** With **Chris Young**, a veteran area comic who specializes in quick-witted, clean, observational humor. Opener: **Khurum Sheikh**, a retired Ann Arbor Police detective. **Jan. 10: Chirp.** Local jazz-inflected progressive funk-rock quartet. **Jan. 11: Black Jake & the Carnies.** Popular Ypsilanti octet that calls its energetic, foot-stomping blend of punk, old-time music, and bluegrass "crabgrass." **Jan. 17: Open Mike.** All musicians invited. Hosted by Erin Zindle. Sign-up begins at 6 p.m. – 10 p.m. **Jan. 24: Bag of Brains.** Detroit psychedelic pop-folk duo. Opener: **Path 2 Ground**, a reggae-oriented groove jam band from Milwaukee. **Jan. 25: Charlie Millard Band.** Americana folk-rock band from northern Michigan led by Millard, a singer-songwriter whose influences range from Dylan & Van Morrison to Rufus Wainwright. **Jan. 31: Donya Kiana.** Local singer-songwriter who specializes in darkly brooding ballads inspired by traditional English and Irish themes. Opener: **Billy King**, a veteran local roots-rock singer-songwriter.

Silvio's Organic Pizza

715 North University 214-6666

This campus-area restaurant features live music Sun. 6–8 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 7–9 p.m., and occasional other nights. No cover, dancing. **Jan. 3: K Michael Joseph.** Local singer-songwriter whose music is an acoustic blend of electropop, nu jazz, and electro-acoustic ambient music. **Jan. 4: The Randaliers.** A diverse mix of familiar and lesser-known rock, blues, alt-country and R&B covers by this local trio of chanteuse Vicki Dischler and guitarists C. Russell and Phil Campbell. **Jan. 10: Bob Skon.** Folk-rock covers and originals by this local singer-songwriter known for his wry songs about love and loss. **Jan. 11: J. Washburn Gardner.** Ypsilanti pop-folk singer-songwriter and classically trained tenor. **Jan. 17: Tim Prosser.** A mix of folk and pop covers and originals by this local singer-mandolinist, who is joined by guest musicians TBA. **Jan. 24: Mary Ann Kirk.** Pop-folk and indie rock originals by this local singer-guitarist. **Jan. 25: Jeremy Skidmore.** Area singer-songwriter who also covers songs by everyone from the Stones and John Mellencamp to the Red Hot Chili Peppers and Sublime. **Jan. 31: James Henes.** Local alternative rock singer-songwriter and guitarist.

Sweetwaters Plymouth Green

3393 Plymouth 369-4568

This northside coffee shop features occasional live music. No cover, no dancing. **Jan. 3: "Talent Night."** Open Mike. All musicians invited. 7 p.m.

Tap Room

201 W. Michigan, Ypsilanti 482-5320

This popular downtown Ypsilanti tavern features live music Thurs. and occasional Fri. & Sat. 8 p.m.–midnight. No cover, dancing. **Every Thurs.: Electric Open Mike.** Hosted by **The Martindales**, a local band led by singer-guitarist Brian Brickley that plays blues and rock covers and originals. All electric musicians invited.

Zal Gaz Grotto

2070 W. Stadium

663-1202

This Masonic social and service club hosts live music Sun. 5–8 p.m., Mon. 7–10 p.m., Tues. 5:30–8:30 p.m. & most Fri. & Sat. 8–11 p.m. The Sun shows (beginning Jan. 12) are preceded at 4:45 p.m. by a couple dancing lesson by Peggy & Bruce Amrine. Cover, dancing. **Every Sun.: "Swing Night."** Swing dancing with **Phil Oggivie's Rhythm Kings** (Jan. 5 & 19), a local 10-piece big band led by tubaist Chris Smith specializing in the early big-band music of the late 1920s and early 1930s associated with Jelly Roll Morton and King Oliver, or the **Royal Garden Trio** (Jan 12 & 26), a trio led by guitarist Brian Delaney that plays early jazz standards and Hot Club-style gypsy jazz. **Every Mon.: Paul Keller Orchestra.** Award-winning 15-piece big band led by bassist Keller and featuring vocalist Sarah D'Angelo and occasional guest vocalists. Also, each week features a middle set by a guest student ensemble. **Every Tues.: Paul Klinger's Easy Street Jazz Band.** Dixieland and swing by this local ensemble founded by the late saxophonist and trumpeter Klinger. **Jan. 3: Old School.** **Jan. 10: Medicine Men.** See Live. **Jan. 11: The Switchbacks.** Local hard-rocking country and blues quintet fronted by vocalist Janet Benson. **Jan. 17: Menage.** New local rock band. **Jan. 18: She-Bop.** Local girl-group-style trio of lead vocalist Elizabeth Royce, singer-guitarist Laurie Lounsbury, and singer-French hornist Morgan Lamontica. With guitarist Johnny Rasmussen, bassist Al Kalaf, and drummer Kinks Heiss. **Jan. 24: Salmagundi.** Local horn-powered Motown/Memphis soul tribute band. **Jan. 25: Spark.** Local pop-rock quartet fronted by vocalist Robin Grant. With guitarist John Rasmussen, bassist Cy Clone, and drummer Jim Weyman. **Jan. 27: Jean Wilson & Friends.** Jazz standards by a Saline quartet fronted by singer-pianist Wilson. 7–10 p.m.

Ziggy's

206 W. Michigan Ave., Ypsilanti

ziggyspsi.com

This downtown Ypsilanti coffeehouse-bar features live music most Fri.–Sat. and occasional other nights, 8–11 p.m. Cover (usually), dancing. **Jan. 4: Dani Darling.** Local quartet led by this jazz-inflected pop-soul singer-songwriter. Openers: **Mercury Salad**, a local acoustic soul-rock quartet, and **Zosette & the Groove**, a versatile vintage rock 'n' soul band from Detroit fronted by singer-guitarist Zosette Guir. **Jan. 18: The Rhythm Machines Project.** A mix of classic rock, soul, funk, R&B, and jazz fusion by this local sextet. Fronted by vocalists Shannon Lee and Patty O'Connor, with guitarists Kip Godwin and Terry Gordon, bassist Kim French, and drummer John Marion. Remainder of January schedule TBA.

Zou Zou's Café

101 N. Main, Chelsea

433-4226

Newly renovated and expanded café features live music Thurs.–Sat, 8–10 p.m. and Tues. & Wed. 7–9 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Tues.: "Groovy Tuesday."** Folk & blues Americana by the Chelsea trio of guitarists Mike Steele & Tommy Reifel and multi-instrumentalist Wes Fritzeimer. **Every Wed.: Open Mike.** All acoustic musicians invited. **Jan. 2: Pete Bullard & the Zou Animals.** Blues, swing, and rockabilly by an ensemble led by veteran local guitarist Bullard. **Jan. 3: Emery Plews Band.** Ypsilanti postpunk country ensemble led by singer-guitarist Alayna Plews and singer-bassist Anthony Emery. **Jan. 4: Everyday People 419.** High-octane R&B and soul band from Toledo. **Jan. 9: Blue Rays Trio.** See below. **Jan. 10: Dave Boutette.** Veteran local folk-rock singer-guitarist whose genial songs about the small ups and downs of ordinary life draw on a range of influences from Chuck Berry to Bob Dylan to Paul Westerberg. He performs with his wife, singer Kristi Davis, a former Radio City Rockette. **Jan. 11: Mark Jewett & Friends.** Ensemble led by Detroit-area Americana pop-rock singer-songwriter Jewett. **Jan. 16: Rollie Tussing & Friends.** Ensemble led by Tussing, a nationally known local guitar virtuoso who specializes in prewar blues and jazz. **Jan. 17: Rachelle Clark.** Talented, golden-voiced Chelsea singer-songwriter who's half of the popular Americana duo The Potter's Field. **Jan. 18: The Renegades.** Classic rock, Motown, & blues cover band from Gregory. **Jan. 23: Pete Bullard & the Zou Animals.** See above. **Jan. 24: Monte Pride.** Lansing pop-folk singer-songwriter and fingerstyle guitarist. **Jan. 25: Mark Dvorak.** Veteran Chicago folk singer, former member of Weavermania with a warm, engaging stage manner who accompanies himself on guitar and banjo. His large repertoire includes traditional songs, material by Steve Goodman and other earlier Chicago folksingers, and originals. **Jan. 30: Blue Rays Trio.** Eclectic blues-based trio with bassist Ralph McKee, guitarist Peter Holland, and harmonica player Tim Douthit. **Jan. 31: Bob Marshall.** Veteran Americana singer-songwriter and acoustic guitarist with a rich, resonant baritone. He is accompanied by dobro player Dave Falk.

January Events

MUSIC AT NIGHTSPOTS

50 Nightspots

John Hinckley

Cory Wong

Patrick Dunn

SENIORS CALENDAR

55 Events for Older Adults

Ella Bourland

GALLERIES

57 Exhibit Openings

Ella Bourland & Maggie McMillin

FILMS

63 Film Screenings

Ella Bourland

EVENTS REVIEWS

56 Martin Katz

Celebrating Eduard Mörike and Hugo Wolf

arwulf arwulf

KIDS CALENDAR

64 Events for kids 12 and under

Ella Bourland & Maggie McMillin

We want to know about your event!

We give priority to Ann Arbor events, but we also list events elsewhere in Washtenaw County deemed of interest to our readers. Always include a contact person's telephone number. Please submit materials as early as possible; items submitted after the **deadline** (the 10th day of the preceding month) might not be included (but will be added to our online calendar at AnnArborObserver.com). Please send a press release by:

- Email: events@aaobserver.com
- Phone: 769-3175
- Mail: Calendar Editors, Ann Arbor Observer, 2390 Winewood, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48103
- Fax: 769-3375
- After-hours drop box: left side of the Observer's front door facing Winewood

Tickets for events highlighted in yellow are available at a2tix.com.

What gets in?

Due to space limitations, **many listings, especially for weekday daytime and recurrent events, appear only in the online calendar at annarborobserver.com**. Also, except for performing arts, which are always listed on each day they occur, most recurrent events that do appear in print are listed only on the date of their 1st occurrence. Thus, the first week of each month, especially, will always contain information about events throughout the month.

The calendar available at annarborobserver.com is not only an expanded version of the Observer print calendar but is also continu-

ally updated and searchable. Additionally, it includes listings, submitted by the public, of classes, religious services, political activities, and other types of events not suitable for the Observer calendar, which focuses exclusively on entertainment and other leisure activities.

* Denotes a free event

1 WEDNESDAY (NEW YEAR'S DAY)

★ "New Year's Bird Walk at Ford Lake": Washtenaw Audubon Society. WAS members Matthew Spoor & Juliet Berger lead a walk to look for gulls, geese, and other waterfowl. 8 a.m., meet at Ford Lake parking lot off S. Grove St., south of I-94, Ypsilanti. Free. WashtenawAudubon.org

★ "Winter Democratic Rides": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. Every Mon.-Fri. The assembled riders choose their own pace, distance, and destination. 10 a.m., meet at Bird Hills parking lot, 1951 Newport. Free. 347-1259.

★ New Year's Day Service: Zen Buddhist Temple. A new year ceremony of contemplation, chanting, and candle lighting. 11:30 a.m., Zen Buddhist Temple, 1214 Packard. Free. 761-6520.

2 THURSDAY

★ Board Game Night: The Loaded Die. Every Thursday. All invited to play popular board games (list available at TheLoadedDie.com). "Board Game Guru" on hand to answer questions. Raffle. 5-9 p.m., Blom Meadworks, 100 S. Fourth Ave. Free. Food & drink for sale. 548-9729.

U-M Museum of Natural History Planetarium. Every Thurs., Sat., Sun., & Jan. 3 & 20. Four different audiovisual planetarium shows suitable for all

ages. *The Sky Tonight* (Thurs. 5:30 & 6:30 p.m.; Sat. & Sun., except Jan. 4 & 5, 11:30 a.m., 12:30, 1:30, & 2:30 p.m.; Jan. 20, 1:30, 2:30, & 3:30 p.m.), is an exploration of the current night sky. *Cosmic Colors* (Sat. & Sun., except Jan. 4 & 5, 10:30 a.m.), details the spectrum of energy we call light. Preceded by a brief star talk. *Two Small Pieces of Glass* (Sat. & Sun., except Jan. 4 & 5, 3:30 p.m.) shows how telescopes big & little, simple & complex, use light to work. *Sea Monsters* (Jan. 2-5, 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., every hour on the half hour) is an animated exploration of sea life 80 million years ago. Various times, U-M MNH, 1105 North University. Tickets \$8. 764-0478.

★ Huron Hills Lapidary & Mineral Society. Mineral enthusiast John Medici presents a video about Herkimer "diamonds," a type of quartz crystal. 7 p.m., West Side United Methodist Church social hall, 900 S. 7th St. Free. 665-5574.

★ History of Books & Printing Reading Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers. All invited to discuss Carlos Ruiz Zafón's bestselling 2001 novel *The Shadow of the Wind*, a mystery about a boy who finds a book by an author who seems to have disappeared. 7:30-9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669-0451.

Ben Moore: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. Jan. 2-4. A regular guest on the syndicated Bob and Tom radio show, this Midwestern comic is known for his punchy, well-crafted jokes about a wide range of topical and cultural matters. Preceded by 2 opening acts TBA. Alcohol is served. 7:30 p.m. (Thurs.-Sat.) & 10 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 212 S. Fourth Ave. \$9 (Thurs.) & \$12 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance at etix.com before 6 p.m. the night of the show; \$11 (Thurs.) & \$14 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996-9080.

"6th Annual Ann Arbor 50 First Jokes": The Ark. Fifty comics from around Michigan, both veterans and upstarts, take turns telling the 1st joke they've written in 2020. Similar events, which began at the Bell House in Brooklyn more than a decade ago, now also take place in New Orleans and L.A. 8 p.m.,

The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$10 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office (muto.umich.edu) and TheArk.org, & at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

3 FRIDAY

★ U-M Clements Library Tour. Jan. 3, 17, & 31. Docents give a behind-the-scenes look at the historic Clements building and collections. 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Clements, 909 South University. Free, preregistration requested at clements.umich.edu. 764-2347.

Dances of Universal Peace (Sufi Dancing). All invited to join in song, chant, and circle dances in joyous affirmation of the unity of the world's spiritual traditions. 7-9 p.m., Friends Meetinghouse, 1420 Hill. \$5 requested donation. 663-2037.

Funky Frosty Friday: Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation. All invited to skate to recorded boy band music. Prizes for best costume. 7:15-8:45 p.m., Buhr Park ice rink, 2751 Packard. \$5 (youth ages 17 & under and seniors age 60 & over; \$4; skate rentals, \$3). 794-6234.

Shadow League Show: Pointless Brewery & Theatre. Every Thurs. Improv by Finance Camp and other up-and-coming local troupes. 7:30 p.m., Pointless, 3014 Packard. Tickets \$8. (989) 455-4484.

★ Comedy Night: Blom Meadworks. Stand-up showcase featuring sets by area comic Andrew Yang & others, with jokes about everything from dating to mortality. 7:30 p.m., Blom, 100 S. Fourth Ave. Free, donations accepted. Facebook.com/BlomComedy

Ben Moore: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 2 Thursday. 7:30 & 10 p.m.

"Pointless Improv Shows": Pointless Brewery & Theatre. Jan. 3, 11, 17, 18, & 25. Comedic improv by experienced local performers, including the resident League of Pointless Improvisers. 8 & 10 p.m., Pointless, 3014 Packard. Tickets \$15 (8 p.m.) & \$12 (10 p.m.). (989) 455-4484.

"Friday Night Swing": Ann Arbor Swing Dance Association/Ann Arbor Community of Tradition

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY at AADI

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Speaks

Monday, Jan 20 • 12:30-8:30pm

PITTSFIELD & MALLETTS CREEK | All Ages

Celebrate Dr. King's legacy by dropping in to watch videos of his speeches all day long.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day Community Sculpture

Monday, Jan 20 • 1-5:00pm

DOWNTOWN 1ST FLOOR LOBBY | All Ages

Drop in and contribute to a community sculpture featuring one of Dr. King's speeches.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day Event

A Conversation with Veterans for Peace

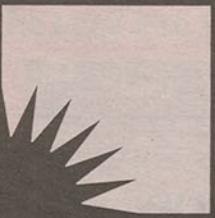
Monday, Jan 20 • 7-8:30pm

DOWNTOWN MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM

The local Chapter of Veterans For Peace will discuss Dr. King's speeches relating to war and militarism, showing that they are as relevant today as they were nearly 50 years ago.

ANN ARBOR DISTRICT LIBRARY
AADL.ORG





JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS

ANN ARBOR DISTRICT LIBRARY
AADL.ORG

JAN 5	BUTTON LAB 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SUNDAY, JANUARY 5 • 12:30-2:00PM Make historically-themed buttons to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the legal right to vote for women in the United States. This event is in partnership with the League of Women Voters. • GRADE 3-ADULT
JAN 6	FILM SCREENING DOCUMENTED MONDAY, JANUARY 6 • 7-8:30PM This film chronicles Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Jose Antonio Vargas's personal and public struggles with the US immigration system. This 2013 documentary is not rated. This event is part of the 2020 Washtenaw Read. For more information, visit wread.org .
JAN 10	JEOPARDY! BEHIND THE SCENES: A DISCUSSION WITH FORMER MICHIGAN CONTESTANTS FRIDAY, JANUARY 10 • 7-8:30PM Have you ever wondered what it's like to be on Jeopardy? Or what it takes to get on the show? Our panel is here to answer those questions and more! • PITTSFIELD
JAN 13	TOWN HALL ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2020 CENSUS, THE CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (CRC), AND MICHIGAN'S NEW VOTING RIGHTS MONDAY, JANUARY 13 • 7-8:30PM This Town Hall, led by the League of Women Voters, will provide information about the 2020 Census, the implementation of the Citizen Redistricting Commission, and the increased access to voting provided by the November 2018 passage of Propositions 2 and 3. This event is in partnership with the League of Women Voters.
JAN 15	FILM & DISCUSSION SALUD SIN PAPELES: HEALTH UNDOCUMENTED WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15 • 6-8:30PM This film follows a group of Arizona activists who organized to build a unique free clinic serving undocumented immigrants. A panel discussion including the film director follows the screening. This 80-minute film is unrated. This event is part of the 2020 Washtenaw Read. For more information about Washtenaw Reads and previous years' reads, visit wread.org .
JAN 17	AUTHOR EVENT AMY AUSCHERMAN: HERMAN MILLER: A WAY OF LIVING FRIDAY, JANUARY 17 • 7-8:30PM Amy Auscherman discusses her new book, a chronicle of the rich history of the innovative Herman Miller furniture company from its founding in the early twentieth century to today. This event includes a signing with books for sale.
JAN 20	DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY COMMUNITY SCULPTURE MONDAY, JANUARY 20 • 1-5:00PM Drop in and contribute to a community sculpture featuring one of Dr. King's speeches. • ALL AGES
JAN 22	STRATEGIES FOR OVERCOMING CLIMATE ECO-ANXIETY WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22 • 7-8:30PM As the climate crisis intensifies, more people are experiencing mental health consequences, or what is being called 'eco-anxiety'. In this talk, Jennifer Bowles, Ph.D. lays out strategies for both assuaging eco-anxiety and mobilizing us toward change.

EVENTS TAKE PLACE IN THE DOWNTOWN LIBRARY UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE.
ALL EVENTS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AT NO CHARGE.
NO REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.

For information on these events and more, please visit [aadl.org](#)

tional Music and Dance. Every Fri. Lindy hop, East Coast swing, Charleston, and Balboa dancing to music spun by DJs. No partner needed. Preceded at 8 p.m. by a free beginner lesson. 9 p.m., Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. \$5 (students and AACTMAD members, \$4). (847) 757-0942.

4 SATURDAY

★“Ann Arbor Group Runs”: Running Fit. Every Mon. & Sat. Runners of all abilities invited to join a 3-8 mile run along varying routes from different Running Fit locations. Also, a speed-training session (every Tues. 6:30 p.m., 5700 Jackson Rd.). Snacks. Snow or shine. 6:30 p.m. (Mon.), 123 E. Liberty & 8 a.m. (Sat.), 5700 Jackson Rd. Free. 769-5016 (Mon.), 929-9022 (Tues. & Sat. Jackson Rd. run).

★“Winter Dexter Breakfast Ride”: Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. Every Sat. A winter version of this very popular ride, where attendees decide on the destination based on weather conditions. Call ahead to confirm ride. For complete AABTS winter schedule, visit [annarborobserver.com](#). Note: Riders should be prepared to take care of themselves on all AABTS rides. Carry a water bottle, a spare tire or tube, a pump, a cell phone, and snacks. 10 a.m. & 1 p.m., meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 347-1259, 996-8440, 996-9122.

Hudson Mills Metropark Interpretive Nature Programs. Jan. 4 & 11. Presented by Hudson Mills naturalist Kim Sherwin. Jan. 4 (10-11 a.m.): “Cardboard Sled Creations.” All invited to build and test out your sled. Materials provided. Hot chocolate. Jan. 11 (9-10 a.m.): “Bird Feeder Fun.” All invited to make a simple bird feeder, while learning about which seeds attract birds. Various times, park activity center, 8801 N. Territorial Rd., Dexter. \$5, pre-registration required. \$10 vehicle entrance fee. 426-8211.

★Monthly Meeting: Washtenaw County Democratic Party Program Committee. Panel discussion with the 3 Democratic candidates for Washtenaw County prosecuting attorney: defense attorney Hugo Mack, Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan's senior adviser Eli Savit, and Ann Arbor senior assistant city attorney Arianne Slay. Q&A. The primary election for prosecuting attorney will take place on Aug. 4, 2020. 10 a.m., Washtenaw County Learning Resource Center, 4135 Washtenaw Ave. Free, nonperishable food items requested for the WCDP food drive. 883-8250.

★Remote-Controlled Car Racing: Washtenaw RC Speedway. Jan. 4 & 18. One of the largest regular gatherings of RC racers in the country features off-road dirt-track racing for stock and modified model electric trucks and buggies. Spectators welcome. Food concessions. 10 a.m. (registration 8-9:30 a.m.), Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd., Saline. Free admission. \$15 to race (\$25 with a rental car). (517) 290-7128.

Argentine Tango Practice: Sophia & El Kronox. Every Sat. Tango dancing to recorded music. No partner or experience necessary. Preceded at 1 p.m. by a lesson (\$10). 2-3 p.m., Phoenix Center, 220 S. Main. \$5 (free with lesson). [SophiaTango.com](#), 634-9629.

★“Saturday Sampler”: U-M Kelsey Museum of Archaeology. Jan. 4 & 25. Themed docent-led tours of the museum. Jan. 4: Animals of the Kelsey. Jan. 25: Current exhibit *Graffiti as Devotion along the Nile*. 2-3 p.m., Kelsey Museum, 434 S. State. Free. 764-9304.

★Pittsfield Open Band: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Jan. 4 & 18. All musicians invited for a contra dance music open jam. Bring Judi Morningstar's *The Ruffwater Fiddlebook*, Susan Songer's *The Portland Collection*, and Bill Matthiesen's *The Waltz Book*, if you have them. 3-6 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Free. 994-9307.

★“Metaphysics and Emotional Intelligence”: Crazy Wisdom Bookstore and Tea Room. Jan. 4 & 18. Talk by local amateur philosopher G. Arthur Weidman. 6:30-8 p.m. or so, Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665-2757.

1st Saturday Contra: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Drake Meadow calls international dances (7 p.m.) and contras (8 p.m.) to live music by Twas Brillig and the Mazel Toves. All dances taught; no partner needed. Bring clean shoes. Preceded at 6 p.m. by a potluck (bring a dish to pass) and a silent auction fundraiser (bring items to auction). 7-11 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Pay what you can (\$10-\$12 suggested). 769-1052, 274-0773.

“Drum & Dance Jam”: Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth. All invited to join a group drumming session led by certified drum circle facilitator Don Allen. Also, undirected freeform dancing, if you wish. No experience required. 7:30-9 p.m., Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd, ste. 1. \$5 suggested donation. 327-0270.

Ben Moore: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 2 Thursday. 7:30 & 10 p.m.

★Euchre Night: Temple Beth Emeth. All invited to play. No partner necessary. 8 p.m., TBE Adult

seniors

Ann Arbor Senior Center (1320 Baldwin Ave., 794-6250). Weekly activities. Closed Jan. 1. **Mah-Jongg** (\$2; members, free). Mon. noon-3 p.m. **Bridge**. ACBL nonsanctioned (Mon. 12:30-3:30 p.m., \$3; members, \$2) & sanctioned (Wed. & Thurs. noon, \$7; members, \$6). **Movie Matinee** (\$2; members, free). Informal screening of a DVD TBA in the lobby. Popcorn. Wed. 1-3 p.m. **Euchre** (\$2; members, free). Mon. 6-8 p.m. **Scrabble** (\$2; members, free). Tues. 10 a.m.-noon, with lunch available (11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m., \$5.50; age 60 & over, \$3). **Social Watercolor**. No prior experience necessary. Thurs. 9:30-11:30 a.m., preregistration required.

U-M Turner Senior Wellness Program (2401 Plymouth, 998-9353). Free weekly activities (except as noted). Closed Jan. 1. **Bridge**. Some experience

Lounge, 2309 Packard. Free. djostrei@umich.edu, 665-4744.

Forte Factory: Pointless Brewery & Theatre. This Pointless musical improv team improvises a one-act musical inspired by a conversation with the audience. 8 & 10 p.m., Pointless, 3014 Packard. Tickets \$15 (8 p.m.) & \$12 (10 p.m.) in advance at PointlessBrew.com & at the door. (989) 455-4484.

Opera on Tap. Local singers perform arias and art songs to the theme of "Ice Queens of Opera." 8:30-10 p.m. (seating begins at 6:30 p.m.), Sidetrack Bar & Grill, 56 E. Cross, Ypsilanti. Free. (Food & drink for sale), donations accepted. Reservations required (call between 10 a.m. & 8 p.m.). 483-5230.

5 SUNDAY

★"Sunday Winter Democratic Ride": **Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society**. Every Sun. The assembled riders choose their own pace, distance, and destination. 10 a.m. & 1 p.m., meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 347-1259, 996-8440, 996-9122.

U-M Women's Basketball vs. MSU. This month's schedule also includes games vs. **Maryland** (Jan. 12, noon) and **Rutgers** (Jan. 26, 2 p.m.). Noon, Crisler Center. \$8 reserved seating & \$6 general admission in advance at mGOblue/tickets. 764-0247.

★"Button Lab": **Ann Arbor District Library**. All invited to make button pins. Materials provided (highlighted by historically themed designs to commemorate the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage), or bring your own image (1.25-2.25 inches) to use. 12:30-2 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4200.

"English Afternoon Tea": **Zingerman's Delicatessen**. Zingerman's tea expert Charles Russman discusses English tea history and offers taste samples of teas with sandwiches and sweets. 1-3 p.m., Zingerman's Greylime, 100 N. Ashley. \$50. Reservations required. 663-3400.

★"Game Playtesting": **Michigan Design Lab**. Jan. 5 & 19. All invited to try out new games from local board and card game designers and provide feedback. 1:30-6 p.m., Blom Meadow, 100 S. Fourth Ave. Free. 548-9729.

★"Copies and Invention in East Asia": **UMMA**. Docent-led tour of the current exhibit of duplicated artwork from China, Korea, and Japan, including paintings and Buddhist sculptures. 2-3 p.m., meet in the UMMA forum, 525 S. State. Free. 764-0395.

★"Tarot Time": **Ann Arbor District Library**. AADL staffers offer a hands-on introduction to using tarot cards for divination. Bring your own deck, if you like. Oracle decks welcome. 2-4 p.m., AADL Westgate. Free. 327-4200.

★"Drawing for Adults": **Ann Arbor District Library**. Every Sun., except Jan. 26. Ann Arbor Art Center artists host a different directed drawing activity each week. 3-5:30 p.m., AADL Downtown multi-purpose rm., 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4200.

★"In Conversation: Travel into Infinity with artist Chul Hyun Ahn": **UMMA**. Informal gallery talk by this multimedia artist who uses mirrors and light to create repeating geometric shapes. 3-4 p.m., UMMA A. Alfred Taubman Gallery, 525 S. State. Free; preregistration required at UMMA.umich.edu/Events. 764-0395.

U-M Wrestling vs. Oregon State. This month's schedule also includes a match vs. **MSU** (Jan. 10, 7 p.m.), **Maryland** (Jan. 17, 7 p.m.), and **Minnesota** (Jan. 19, 2 p.m., Crisler Center). 4 p.m., Cliff Keen Arena, Hoover at S. State. \$6 at mGOblue.com/tickets. 764-0247.

★"Ann Arbor Morris". Every Sun. All invited to try this boisterous, jingly English ceremonial dance thought to be descended from the 15th-century Spanish moresca. Wear athletic shoes. 6-8 p.m., Concourse Hall, 4531 Concourse. Free. Email

necessary. Mon. & Fri. 12:30-4:30 p.m. **Meditation**. Led by Still Mountain Meditation instructors Bilha Hirman Rivlin & Ken Morley. Mon. 5-6 p.m. **Walking Group**. Canceled for inclement weather, Tues. 1:15 p.m. **Chess**. Wed. 1-4 p.m. **Mah-Jongg**. Thurs. 10 a.m.-noon. **Writing Group**. Participants read and discuss their poetry, essays, fiction, and reminiscences. Dec. 6, 1-3 p.m. "Spirituality & Loss." Talk by U-M internal medicine professor Dorrie Rosenblatt. Jan. 20, 1-3 p.m. **Scrabble**. Jan. 21, 2-4 p.m. **Crafting Group**. Bring your own craft to work on. Jan. 23, 3-4:30 p.m.

Jan. 9 (noon): "Imagining a Dementia Free Community": First Presbyterian Church Lunch & Learn Series. Talk by Saline resident Jim Mangi. FPC, 1432 Washtenaw Ave. Free (hot lunch, \$5), preregistration requested. 662-4466.

a2morris@umich.edu to confirm or check meetup.com/Ann-Arbor-Morris-Dancing. 717-1569.

"The Arcade: Improv Jam": Pointless Brewery & Theatre. Jan. 5 & 19. All invited to play short-form improv games. No experience necessary. Spectators welcome. 7:30 p.m., Pointless, 3014 Packard. Pay what you can. (989) 455-4484.

6 MONDAY

★**Oracle Pro Tennis Series**. Jan. 6-12. Over 60 matches of professional men's singles and doubles in competition for a \$54,000 prize, in Ann Arbor for the first time. Final rounds on Jan. 11 & 12. Times TBA at tnTennisSeries.com, U-M Varsity Tennis Center, 2250 S. State. Free. (440) 840-4072.

Weekly Meeting: The U-M Club of Ann Arbor, Every Mon. All invited to talk sports with other enthusiasts and listen to featured U-M sports coaches discuss their team. Weber's catered lunch available (\$10.75; seniors, \$10.25). 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Weber's Inn, 3050 Jackson Rd. \$5 for nonmembers, up to 2 weeks (\$60 annual membership dues). 239-3428.

★"Open Tech Lab": **Ann Arbor District Library**. Two hours of open access to the AADL collection of computing hardware (circuitry, motors, LEDs, cameras, & sensors), coding devices (Python, Scratch, Sonic Pi, & Linux commands), and other tech devices. 6:30-8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4200.

★"Death Café": **Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth**. All invited to join a frank conversation about death, hosted by Interfaith Center Minister Annie Kopko. 6:30-8:30 p.m., Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd, ste. 1. Free. 327-0270.

Pinball League: Pinball Pete's. Every Tues. & Sun. All invited to compete in a pinball tournament of 6 games, followed by a playoff between those in the top half. Prizes. 7 p.m., Pinball Pete's, 1214 South University. \$2 entry fee plus the cost of games (75 cents to \$1 per game). 213-2502.

★"Emerging Writers: Unforgettable Characters": **Ann Arbor District Library**. Local short story writer Alex Kourvo discusses how to create fictional characters that seem as real as the people we know. Also, Kourvo and young adult fiction writer Merrie Haskell host an open house (Jan. 13, 7-8:30 p.m.) for writers to connect with one another and/or work on their projects. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL Westgate. Free. 327-4200.

★"The Depositions: New and Selected Essays on Being and Ceasing to Be": **Literati Bookstore**. Nationally renowned poet and essayist Thomas Lynch, a Milford funeral director, reads from this book of new & old essays on fatherhood, Irish heritage, funeral rites, and the loss of friends, poets, neighbors, and beloved pets. Signing. 7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585-5567.

★"Upsizing Life by Downsizing Stuff": **Lifetree Café**. All invited to join a conversation led by St. Paul Lutheran Church members. 7-8 p.m., 500 W. Liberty. Free. 665-7912.

★"Large Ensemble Meeting: Ann Arbor Recorder Society". All beginning and advanced players of the recorder and other early instruments invited. Directed by viol teacher and early music specialist Janet Cannon. Music provided; bring your own music stand. 7:30-9 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. Free to visitors (\$40 monthly dues for those who join). a2RecorderSociety.org

Tartan & Thistle Scottish Country Dancers. Every Mon. Jigs, reels, and strathspeys. Usually with live music by Susie Lorand & friends. All dances taught; beginners welcome. 7:30-9:30 p.m., The Barn at Gretchen's House V, 2625 Traver. \$5. 395-7782, 274-0773.

Argentine Tango Practice: Tangolab. Every Mon. Tango dancing to music spun by a DJ. No partner

necessary. Preceded by lessons for beginners (6:30 p.m.) & intermediate/advanced dancers (7:30 p.m.) 8:30-11:30 p.m., Pittsfield Union Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. \$5 (with lesson, \$10). 819-1292.

7 TUESDAY

"KnITTY Cats": Tiny Lions Lounge and Adoption Center. Jan. 7, 14, 21, & 28. All invited to work on knitting projects and hangout with adoptable cats. A knitting expert is on hand. Coffee. 5:30 p.m., Tiny Lions, 5245 Jackson Rd., ste. A. \$7 (\$24 per month). 661-3575.

"Knit Happens": **Ann Arbor Stitch 'n' Bitch**. Every Tues. All knitters invited to work on their projects and swap tips. 6-9 p.m., call for location. \$2 monthly dues. MeetUp.com/Ann-Arbor-StitchNBitch, 945-3035.

English Country Dance: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Every Tues. Historical and traditional English dancing to live music. All dances taught. No partner or experience needed. Bring flat, nonslip shoes (running shoes OK). First-timers are asked to arrive at 6:45 p.m. Jan. 7: Megan Wilson and Julie Esch lead to music by Childgrove. Jan. 14: Arlene Kindel and Ruth Scodel lead to music by Time Travelers. Jan. 21: Megan Wilson and Ray Bantle lead to music by Judi Morningstar, Susan Lazar, and Betsy Foote. Jan. 28: Shirley Harden and Arlene Kindel lead to music by Josh Burdick, Ari Sussman, and Martha Stokely. 7 p.m., Chapel Hill Condominium clubhouse, 3350 Green Rd. \$8 (students, \$4; kids age 13 & under with a parent, free). 665-7704.

Eastside Weekly Euchre Tournament. Every Tues. Age 18 & over invited. No partner needed. Cash prizes for 1st-3rd places. 7 p.m., Banfield's Bar & Grill, 3140 Packard. \$5. Kari.Thurman@gmail.com

★"The View from Somewhere: Undoing the Myth of Journalistic Objectivity": **Literati Bookstore**. North Carolina-based independent journalist Lewis Raven Wallace reads from his book on how journalism can be reformed to best serve the public. Signing. 7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585-5567.

★"Ann Arbor Camera Club": Jan. 7 & 21. Club members show their projected images (Jan. 7) and prints (Jan. 21) on various topics, including this month's assigned topic, "Disappearing Technology." Also, several club members TBA present 4-10 images (Jan. 7) to a panel of member judges who select the best of the lot. 7:30 p.m., Forsythe Middle School Media Center, 1655 Newport Rd. Free. 327-4781.

★"Spanish Readers Group: Nicola's Books". All invited to join a discussion, in Spanish, of *Señales que precederán el fin del mundo*, Yuri Herrera's 2011 novel about a girl searching along the U.S.-Mexico border for her missing brother. 7:30 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662-0600.

The Moth StorySLAM: Michigan Radio. Jan. 7 & 21. Open mic storytelling competition sponsored by The Moth, the NYC-based nonprofit storytelling organization that also produces a weekly public radio show. Ten storytellers are selected at random from among those who sign up to tell a 3-5 minute story on "Beg Borrow Steal" (Jan. 7) & "Beauty" (Jan. 21)—judged by a 3-person team recruited from the audience. Monthly winners compete in a semiannual Grand Slam. Seating limited; arrive early. 7:30-9 p.m. (doors open and sign-up begins at 6:30 p.m.), The Blind Pig, 208 S. First. Tickets \$15 general admission in advance only at TheMoth.org beginning a week before each event. 764-5118.

8 WEDNESDAY

★"Letterpress Open Lab: Ann Arbor District Library". Every Wed. All invited to learn the basics of letterpress printing using vintage handset type. 6-8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4200.

★"Kerrytown Crafters": Every Wed. All crocheters, knitters, spinners, weavers, felters, sewers, and other crafters invited to work on their projects. Questions welcome, help available. 6:30-8:30 p.m. or so, Kerrytown Sweetwaters. Free. Facebook.com/Groups/KTCrafters, 926-8863.

★"Creating and Caring for Native Plant Gardens": **Ann Arbor Wild Ones**. Talk by U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens director Bob Grese. 6:45 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free, metered parking. 604-4674.

★"The Art of Bread Making": **Ann Arbor District Library**. The Lakehouse Bakery (Chelsea) owner Keegan Rodgers demonstrates how to bake a variety of breads. Tastings. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL Pittsfield, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. Free. 327-4200.

★"How Can We Improve Race Relations?": **Interfaith Round Table of Washtenaw County**. Jan. 8, 22, & 29. All invited to join a discussion lead by IRT codirector Dwight Wilson. 7-8:30 p.m., 1115 Baldwin Ave. Free, preregistration required at DwightLWilson@hotmail.com



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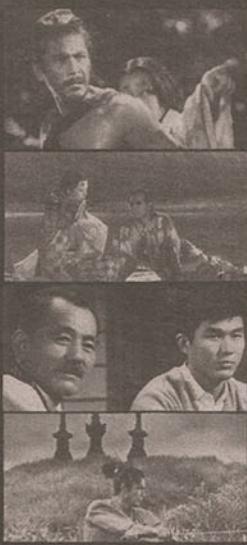
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Martin Katz & Friends

Celebrating Eduard
Mörike and Hugo Wolf

Martin Katz is a beloved pedagogue, vocal coach, and internationally respected organizer of song recitals. A self-described "people person," he is the living embodiment of the term "collaborative pianist." In concert, Katz emanates a special warmth, like a favorite uncle chatting with friends in front of a hearth. Four skilled lieder singers take turns entering the world of a song and bringing it to life for all to hear. Supertitled translations flow across a panel mounted high above on the proscenium arch, but the lyrical alchemy of words and music is manifest even if one listens with eyes shut.

The Katz company's two concerts at Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre on January 10 and 12 will focus on fifty-three poems by Swabian pastor, painter, poet, and novelist Eduard Mörike, set to music in 1888 by Austrian-Slovenian composer Hugo Wolf. The Mörike lieder encompass a full range of human emotions, sounding variously like lullabies, love songs, bad dreams, or cheeky parlor entertainments. One warns against attempting to compose when hung over; another describes the unparalleled gratification to be derived from kicking a critic down a flight of stairs.

Roveries inspired by nature include a pair of odes to a flowering hellebore and a song of sympathy for a brimstone butterfly seen fluttering about during a brief warm spell in April. "At Midnight" is a study in nocturnal wonderment. This gentle song, which has taken up residence in my brain, often lulls me to sleep at night. Among Mörike's spiritual contemplations are a prayer for the blessing of moderation, a sobering meditation on impermanence, and a humble expression of religious devotion ending with the words "The stars are singing. I kneel to listen to their song of light."



PETER SMITH

The Mörike-Wolf songbook is peppered with plucky joie de vivre and openly expressed erotic enthusiasm—the most sexually explicit being a young woman's amorous reflections, alive with references to a blissfully burrowing eel or snake. There is also a pleasant description of affectionate postcoital glances exchanged in the street after an overnight thunderstorm. Other songs invoke goddesses, water sprites, lake spirits, fairies, and elves.

Emotional extremes prevail in a song depicting a woman's frenzied attempts to converse with gale-force winds while standing on a hilltop and in the eldritch tale of a phantom firefighter on horseback. Partly shouted and partly sung, "The Fire Rider" usually scares the hell out of me. Wolf himself was sometimes frightened by his own compositions: "One sounds so weird and strange that I am quite afraid of it," he wrote. "There has never been anything like it. God help the unfortunate people who will one day hear it!"

—arwulf arwulf

★ "Indelible in the Hippocampus: Writings from the Me Too Movement": Literati Bookstore. Local McSweeney's executive director and publisher Amanda Uhle and writers Natalie Bakopoulos, Nandi Comer, & Emily Jace McLaughlin discuss their contributions to this 2019 book of essays, fiction, and poetry by black, Latinx, Asian, queer, & trans writers who reflect on their experiences of a culture of normalized sexual harassment and abuse. 7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585-5567.

★ "An Evening of Poetry and Written Word": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room. All invited to read and discuss their poetry or short fiction. Bring about 6 copies of your work to share. 7-8:45 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665-2757.

★ "Tango": Pittsfield Union Grange. Talk by Jorge and Griselda Broggio of the Tango Argentino Club. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by a potluck (bring a dish to pass). 7:15 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Free. 274-0773.

★ "Visitors Night: Ann Arbor Model Railroad Club": All invited to check out the trains whizzing around on the club's big, elaborate layout, housed in a depot restored by the club. 7:30-10 p.m., Michigan Central Depot, 3487 Broad, Dexter. Free. 426-5100.

★ "History Readers Book Club: Motte & Bailey Bookseller": All invited to join a discussion, led by EMU history professor emeritus Michael Homel, of John Jackson's 1999 book *American Bandstand: Dick Clark and the Making of a Rock 'n' Roll Empire*, which explores what happened in front of and behind the camera of the popular 50s and 60s TV show. 7:30-9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 484-3613.

★ "Israeli Dancing": Jewish Community Center. Every Wed. Dance instructors Cheryl Feit and DJ Amnon Steiner lead a variety of Israeli dances to recorded music. Easy dances and oldies the first hour, followed by intermediate dances and requests. Beginners welcome. New dances taught each week. Wear soft-soled shoes. 7:30-9:30 p.m. JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. \$5. 971-0990.

★ "Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. Every Wed. Performances by 12 aspiring area stand-up comics. Alcohol is served. 7:30 p.m., 212 S. Fourth Ave. \$5 reserved seating in advance at etix.com and general admission at the door. 996-9080.

★ "Open Dancing: Swing Ann Arbor": Every Wed. Swing dancing to recorded music. No partner needed. Bring casual or nicer shoes that stay on your feet when you're flying around the room. Preceded at 8 p.m. by a lesson. 9-11 p.m., Michigan League Ballroom rm. (Jan. 8), Michigan League Vandenberg Rm. (Jan. 22), & location TBA on SwingAnnArbor.com (Jan. 15 & 29). \$5 (students & members, \$4; free for those who attend the lesson). 945-8428.

9 THURSDAY

★ "U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute": Every Thurs. Jan. 9-Feb. 13. Series of 6 weekly talks about the impact of social media. Jan. 9: U-M information professor Clifford Lampe on "What We Know Now." Jan. 16: U-M pediatrics professor Jenny Radesky on "Mobile Media and Parenting." Jan. 23: U-M psychology professor Ethan Gross on "How Do Online Social Media Networks Influence People's Emotional Lives?" Jan. 30: U-M information professor Sarita Schoenebeck on "Re-

galleries

New exhibits this month:

Ann Arbor District Library, 343 S. Fifth Ave. *Images of Alaska* (Jan. 13–Feb. 23, 3rd fl. exhibit space). Photos of Alaskan landscapes, seascapes, and wildlife by Michigan photographer Howard Smith. Artist talk Jan. 26, 2–3:30 p.m. (see events). Mon. 10 a.m.–9 p.m., Tues.–Fri. 9 a.m.–9 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun. noon–6 p.m. 327–4555.

Ann Arbor District Library Malletts Creek, 3090 E. Eisenhower Pkwy. *Nature Abstract in Black and White* (Jan. 24–Mar. 19). Local entomologist Zohair Mohsen's macro photos of plants and insects. Mon. 10 a.m.–9 p.m., Tues.–Fri. 9 a.m.–9 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun. noon–6 p.m. 327–4555.

EMU Ford Gallery, Ford Hall, E. Cross between Welch Hall and Boone Hall, & **University Gallery**, 900 Oakwood, Ypsilanti. **Fresh Looks 2020** (Jan. 13–30). Details TBA at art.emich.edu. Reception Jan. 14, 4:30–6:30 p.m. Mon. & Thurs. 10 a.m.–5 p.m.; Tues. & Wed. 10 a.m.–7 p.m.; Fri. & Sat. 10 a.m.–2 p.m. 487–1268.

EMU IGG Gallery, EMU Student Center, 900 Oakwood, Ypsilanti. **Fenrik Goerlitz** (Jan. 13–24, reception Jan. 15, 5:30–7 p.m.) & **Trisha Schultz** (Jan. 27–Feb. 7, reception Jan. 29, 5:30–7 p.m.). Multimedia works by these EMU art students. 864–6199, 649–7342.

Jewish Community Center Amster Gallery, 2935 Birch Hollow. **Leslie Masters Students** (Jan. 24–Mar.

6). Reception Jan. 26, 4–6 p.m. Paintings by students of local art instructor Masters. Mon.–Thurs. 9 a.m.–9 p.m., Fri. 9 a.m.–6 p.m. 971–0990.

Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. **Marty Walker** (Jan. 14–Mar. 2). Oil & acrylic paintings by this Observer cover artist. Reception Feb. 6, time TBA. Mon.–Fri. 9:30 a.m.–5 p.m., by appointment, and during evening concerts. 769–2999.

U-M Clark Library, Hatcher Grad Library, 2nd fl. **Waterways to Motorways: Traversing the Great Lakes** (Jan. 9–Mar. 9). Historical maps of the Great Lakes. Mon.–Thurs. 9 a.m.–9 p.m., Fri. 9 a.m.–6 p.m. 971–0990.

U-M Hatcher Graduate Library, Audubon Room (enter from the Diag). **Dear Stranger: Diaries for the Private and Public Self.** (Jan. 15–Apr. 12). Diaries, journals, daily planners, notebooks, and more from U-M's Special Collections Research Center. For hours, see lib.umich.edu/Hatcher-Graduate-Library. 936–2309.

U-M Institute for the Humanities Gallery, 202 S. Thayer St. **Stories of Refuge** (Jan. 13–Feb. 2). Video installation curated by Lebanese artist Tania El Khoury, who gave three Syrian refugees a camera to film a day in their life in a Munich refugee camp. Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–5 p.m. 936–3518.

U-M Lane Hall, 204 S. State. **New York City's Vanished Cafeterias** (Jan. 16–July 31). Reception Jan. 16, 4–5:30 p.m. Photos by NYC-based documentary

photographer Marcia Bricker Halperin depicting the 1970s cafeteria-going culture of elderly Jewish New Yorkers. Mon.–Fri. 8 a.m.–5 p.m. 615–6613.

U-M Museum of Art (UMMA), 525 S. State. **The Public Square** (Jan. 25–May 17). Reception Jan. 25, 4 p.m. Large-scale abstract installations by NYC-based multimedia artist Cullen Washington, whose collages explore the importance of public space. Tues.–Sat. 11 a.m.–5 p.m., Sun. noon–5 p.m. 764–0395.

U-M Residential College Art Gallery, 701 East University. **The Indexical Print** (Jan. 17–Feb. 14). Reception Jan. 17, 5–6:30 p.m. Works by multimedia artists exploring printmaking and other methods of image replication. Mon.–Fri. 10 a.m.–5 p.m. 762–0032.

U-M Stamps Gallery, 201 S. Division. **Taking a Stand** (Jan. 17–Feb. 29). Reception Jan. 17, 5:30–8 p.m. Interactive installations (photos, comics, 3-D film, and more) by artists examining how art influences social issues. Tues.–Sat. noon–7 p.m. 368–1095.

WSG Gallery, 306 S. Main. **15+15** (Jan. 2–Feb. 1). Work by each of the gallery's fifteen members, shown alongside work by an artist they admire. Paintings, jewelry, fiber art, sculpture, books, cards, ceramics, and more. Reception Jan. 3, 7 p.m. Mon.–Thurs. noon–6 p.m., Fri. & Sat. noon–9 p.m., Sun. noon–5 p.m. 761–2287.

storing Justice to Targets of Online Harassment.” 10–11:30 a.m., **WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium**, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. \$55 (members, \$10). Memberships \$25/year. 998–9351.

“Transcendent Bonsai: The Ever-Contemporary International Art Form”: **Ann Arbor Farm & Garden**. U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens curator David Michener & Matthaei bonsai and penjing garden specialist Carmen Leskoviansky present an overview of this ancient artform. 12:30–2 p.m., **Ann Arbor City Club**, 1830 Washtenaw Ave. \$10, preregistration required before Jan. 2 at bit.ly/TranscendentBonsai. 635–2247.

★Shane McCrae: U-M English Department Zell Visiting Writers Series. Reading by this poet, a Columbia University creative writing professor whose new collection, *The Gilded Auction Block*, combines political and confessional poetry to address themes of identity, freedom, racism, oppression, and inheritance. McCrae pairs traditional English meter with inventive line breaks and spacing to create what *New Yorker* reviewer Dan Chiasson calls “beautifully up-to-date, old-fashioned work.” Preceded at 3 p.m. by a Q&A. 5:30 p.m., **UMMA Auditorium**, 525 S. State (Q&A, 1176 Angell Hall, 435 S. State). Free. 764–6330.

U-M Men’s Basketball vs. Purdue. This month’s schedule also includes games vs. **Penn State** (Jan. 22, 7 p.m.) and **Illinois** (Jan. 25, noon). 7 p.m., **Crisler Center**. Tickets TBA at mGOblue.com/tickets. 764–0247.

★“Introductory Woodcarving”: **Ann Arbor District Library**. All invited to learn the basics of this artform by carving a small object to take home. 7–8:30 p.m., **AADL Downtown Secret Lab**, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4200.

★“Singing for Comfort”: **Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth**. All invited to join a sing-along of soothing songs that are easy to learn. No experience necessary. 7–8:30 p.m., **Interfaith Center**, 704 Airport. Free. 646–7405.

★Frithjof Bergmann: Ann Arbor District Library. This U-M philosophy professor emeritus discusses his new book, *New Work New Culture: Work We Want and a Culture That Strengthens Us*, which proposes an alternative to organized work as it has existed since the Industrial Revolution. 7–8:30 p.m., **AADL Downtown 4th fl.**, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4200.

★A.R. Moxon: Literati Bookstore. This Grand Rapids–based fiction writer reads from his 2019 debut novel *The Revisionaries*, an imaginatively suspenseful tale about a street preacher whose neighborhood is descended upon by patients of a nearby mental hospital, including followers of a religious cult and a doomsday prophet. 7 p.m., **Literati**, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.

“Comedy Rumble: Bret’s Birthday Show”: **Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase**. Detroit comedian Brett Hayden hosts this multi-round contest with 90-second performances by his favorite area comics, judged by a panel of comics. 7:30 p.m., 212 S. Fourth Ave. \$10 reserved seating in advance at etix.com and general admission at the door. 996–9080.

“The Fantasticks”: **Ann Arbor Civic Theatre**. Jan. 9–12. Jimmy Dee Arnold directs local actors in Tom Jones and Harvey Schmidt’s romantic 1960 musical comedy about a boy and girl who fall in love despite

their feuding fathers, only to grow apart when the fighting stops. This hit show, an off-Broadway production that holds the record for the world’s longest-running musical, explores the nature of love with simplicity, nostalgia, and catchy songs. 7:30 p.m. (Jan. 9), 8 p.m. (Jan. 10 & 11), & 2 p.m. (Jan. 12). **Arthur Miller Theatre**, 1226 Murfin Ave. Tickets \$28 (\$25, seniors; \$15, students) in advance at a2ct.org and at the door. 971–2228.

10 FRIDAY

Wolverine Classic: Gym America. Jan. 10–12. Over 1,000 women gymnasts compete in this national-level competition. Complete schedule available at **WolverineClassic.com**. 5–9 p.m. (Fri.) & 8 a.m.–9 p.m. (Sat. & Sun.), **Saline Middle School**, 7190 N. Maple, Saline. Admission \$10 at the door (Students ages 5–17, \$5; kids 4 & under, free). Cash only. 971–1667.

U-M Women’s Gymnastics vs. Washington & Texas Woman’s University. This month’s schedule also includes a meet vs. Rutgers (Jan. 24, 6:30 p.m.). 6:30 p.m., **Crisler Center**. Tickets TBA at mGOblue.com/tickets. 764–0247.

★“Danish Hygge Cozy Winter”: **Ann Arbor District Library**. Jan. 10 & 31. All adults invited to sit by a virtual fireplace with warm drinks, sweet treats, & mellow music and work on jigsaw puzzles or do whatever else gets you in the spirit of *hygge*, a Danish term for cozy contentment. Also, a local crafter is on hand to help with crochet or knitting projects. 6:30–8:30 p.m., **AADL Downtown multipurpose rm.**, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4200.

★Game Night: Sweetwaters Downtown. Jan. 10 & 24. All invited to play card & board games. Bring your own game, or use one provided. 6:30–10:30 p.m., **Sweetwaters**, 123 W. Washington. Free. 417–4266.

Family Shabbat Dinner: Jewish Cultural Society. All invited for a dinner featuring latkes, preceded by a brief Shabbat observance with songs, candle lighting, challah and wine rituals, and a Yahrzeit observance to remember loved ones. Children welcome. 6:30–9 p.m., **JCC**, 2935 Birch Hollow. \$10 (family, \$25; members, free). Preregistration required at JewishCulturalSociety.org. 975–9872.

★“Lantern-Lit Ski and Snowshoe”: **Waterloo Recreation Area**. Every Fri. (except Jan. 24), Jan. 10–Feb. 7. All invited to walk or (conditions permitting) ski or snowshoe half-mile lantern-lit loops. Fire available to warm up between laps. A few pairs of snowshoes available to borrow. 7–9 p.m., **Eddy Discovery Center**, 17030 Bush Rd., Chelsea. Free, preregistration required (space limited). \$11 recreation passport required (\$16 if purchased at the gate). 475–3170.

★Mark Webster Reading Series: U-M English Department. Jan. 10 & 24. Readings by U-M creative writing grad students. Jan 10: Fiction by **Asher Dark** and poetry by **Kassy Lee**. Jan 24: Fiction by **Cherline Bazile** and poetry by **Aozora Brockman**. 7 p.m., **UMMA Auditorium**, 525 S. State. Free. 764–6330.

★Chris McCormick: Literati Bookstore. This U-M MFA grad reads from his debut novel *The Gimmicks*, an epic set during the Cold War about a trio of young Armenians who migrate from the Soviet Union across Europe and eventually to Southern California, where

they find success in backgammon and pro wrestling. The *Kirkus Review* calls it an exploration of the “mix of smarts, luck, and fakery that are essential to every immigrant survival story.” Signing. 7 p.m., **Literati**, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.

★“Jeopardy! Behind the Scenes”: **Ann Arbor District Library**. Panel discussion with Michigan-based former *Jeopardy!* contestants Craig Barker (1997 champion), Sarah McNitt (2014 champion), & Sarah von Oeyen (2019 contestant). 7–8:30 p.m., **AADL Pittsfield**, 2359 Oak Valley. Free. 327–4200.

Roy Wood Jr.: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. Jan. 10 & 11. A frequent correspondent for Comedy Central’s *The Daily Show with Trevor Noah* since 2015, Wood is an Alabama-bred comic best known for his prank calls featured on more than 40 talk radio shows. Preceded by 2 opening acts. TBA. Alcohol is served. 7:30 & 10 p.m., 212 S. Fourth Ave. \$20 reserved seating in advance at etix.com before 6 p.m. the night of the show; \$22 general admission at the door. 996–9080.

★Dai Uk Lee: U-M School of Music. Performance by this celebrated South Korean pianist, who has taught piano at MSU and Hanyang University (Seoul). Preceded on Jan. 9 by a master class (10:30 a.m.). 7:30 p.m., **U-M Moore Bldg. Britton Recital Hall**, 1100 Baits. Free. 615–3204.

“What’s in a Song?”: **University Musical Society**. Jan. 10 & 12 (different programs). See review, left. U-M piano professor **Martin Katz** curates 2 concerts which explore different elements of all 53 of Austrian composer Hugo Wolf’s art songs, written for Swabian Romantic poet Eduard Mörike’s pastoral poems. Wolf’s music fuses Mörike’s verbal rhythms with vocal inflections to make what one critic calls a “reincarnation of the poem in another medium.” The singers are soprano **Sarah Shafer**, mezzo-soprano **Susan Platts**, tenor **Daniel McGrew**, and baritone **Jesse Blumberg**. Katz accompanies. 8 p.m. (Fri.) & 4 p.m. (Sun.), **Lydia Mendelsohn Theatre**, 911 North University. Tickets \$45–\$60 (students, \$12–\$20) in advance at Tickets.UMS.org, the Michigan League, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764–2538.

“The Fantasticks”: **Ann Arbor Civic Theatre**. See 9 Thursday. 8 p.m.

“Pointless Improv with This is a Quiz”: **Pointless Brewery & Theatre**. Jan. 10, 24, & 31. Performance by this resident improv group. Followed by the League of Pointless Improvisers performing “water form,” its original long-form style of improv. Show preceded by a guest improv troupe TBA. 8 & 10 p.m., **Pointless**, 3014 Packard. Tickets \$15 (8 p.m.) & \$12 (10 p.m.) in advance at PointlessBrew.com & at the door. (989) 455–4484.

11 SATURDAY

Huron Gun Collectors. Jan. 11 & 12. About 100 dealers and collectors offer guns, knives, ammunition, & other hunting equipment for sale, including antiques and collectibles. Concessions. Youth age 17 & under must be accompanied by an adult. 9 a.m.–4 p.m. (Sat.) & 9 a.m.–3 p.m. (Sun.), **Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds**, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. \$5 admission (members, \$3; kids age 12 & under, free). (517) 605–0624.

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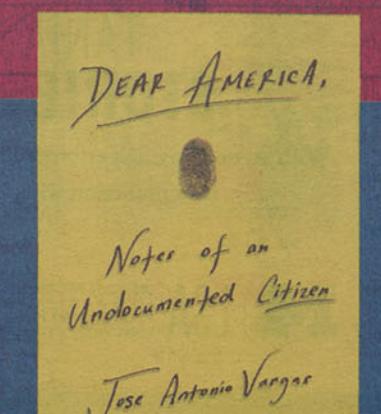


JOSE ANTONIO VARGAS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 30
7–8:30PM

LECTURE TOWNSLEY AUDITORIUM,
MORRIS LAWRENCE BUILDING AT
WASHTENAW COMMUNITY COLLEGE

This event includes a signing with books for sale.
Doors open at 6 pm to offer the opportunity
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representatives who will be staffing information
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With accompanying performance of "As Far as My Fingertips Take Me,"
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★**U-M Museum of Natural History Tours.** Every Sat. & Sun. Thirty-minute guided tours showcasing some of the museum's long beloved and new exhibits. "Museum Highlights Tour" (10 a.m. & 2 p.m.) shows a mastodon couple, the Majungasaurus dinosaur, and the new research labs. "Wonderful World of Whales" (noon & 4 p.m.) shows how whales and dolphins made the transition from land back to water. Various times, MHN, 1105 North University. Free. 764-0478.

★**U-M Men's & Women's Swimming & Diving vs. Indiana.** This month's schedule also includes a men's & women's meet vs. MSU (Jan. 31, 5 p.m.). 11 a.m. (women's team) & 2 p.m. (men's team), Canham Natatorium, 500 E. Hoover. Free. 764-0247.

★**Lab Chats: U-M Museum of Natural History.** Every Sat. & Sun. Short all-ages lecture-demos by museum educators in the museum atriums. "Paleo Prep Lab Chat" (11:30 a.m.) shows the tools and skills needed to prepare and cast fossils for research and display. "Biodiversity Lab Chat" (3:30 p.m.) shows how and why scientists process DNA samples from plants and animals. Various times, MHN, 1105 North University. Free. 764-0478.

★**"Getting Started with Electronic Music": Ann Arbor District Library.** North Coast Modular Collective representatives and U-M Michigan Electronic Music Collective members discuss the basics of making electronic music and offer some hands-on demos. Socializing. 1-5 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4200.

★**"A Winter Dweller's Celebration": U-M Kelsey Museum of Archaeology.** Michigan storyteller Genot Picor tells stories and performs music & dance evocative of the French fur-trading days of Old Michigan. 2-3 p.m., Kelsey Museum, 434 S. State. Free. 764-9304.

★**"Intro to Improv for Teens": Ann Arbor District Library.** Local improv troupe Work Friends members Ashley Hughes & Michael Baker lead teens in grades 6-12 through improv games, scene work, and other playful exercises. No experience necessary. 2-4 p.m., AADL Downtown multipurpose rm., 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4200.

2nd Saturday Contra Dance Party: Ann Arbor Community for Traditional Music and Dance. Dan Blim of Ohio leads contra to live music by the Saline Fiddlers Philharmonic, fiddler Luke Panning, and guest musicians TBA. No experience or partner needed. Wear loose fitting clothing and flat non-slip shoes. Dancing preceded by a concert by the Saline Fiddlers Philharmonic. 7 p.m., Concourse Hall, 4531 Concourse. Pay what you can, \$10 suggested. 443-9907.

★**Beethoven's Early Piano Sonatas on Period Instruments:** U-M School of Music. Jan. 11 & 19. Performing on a 5-octave Viennese-style piano, U-M piano professor Matthew Bengston and U-M music students perform the 3 sonatas in op. 2 (Jan 11) and the 5 sonatas in op. 10 & op. 27 (Jan 19). The Jan. 11 program also features commentary by musicology professor Steven Whiting. 7:30 p.m., U-M Moore Bldg. Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits. Free. 615-3204.

Roy Wood Jr.: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 10 Friday. 7:30 & 10 p.m.

“Florence: Music in the Cultural Crucible”: Eya (Academy of Early Music). This award-winning Washington, D.C., vocal trio performs music popular in Renaissance Florence between the 14th & 16th centuries, from medieval chants and sacred songs to the works of Florentine native Francesco de Layolle and Franco-Flemish composers DuFay, Isaac, and Agricola. Preceded at 7:15 by an artist talk. Also, Eya coaches the Ann Arbor Grail Singers in a master class performance this afternoon at 2 p.m. 8 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. Tickets \$30 (seniors, \$25; students, \$10) in advance by Jan. 3 at AcademyOfEarly-Music.org and Bookbound (1729 Plymouth); \$35 (seniors, \$30; students, \$15) at the door. 228-4338.

Elaine Dame Trio: Kerrystown Concert House. Vintage jazz and modern jazz standards by this ensemble led by vocalist Dame, a mainstay of the Chicago jazz scene known for her interpretive skills. Jazz Improv magazine praises how Dame “combines a freshness of approach with an unaffected fondness for the music she sings.” 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Tickets \$20-\$40 (students, \$10) in advance at a2tix.com. 769-2999.

Peter Madcat Ruth & Michael Shimmin: Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth Cafe 704. Madcat Ruth, a world-renowned veteran local harmonica wiz, has a massive repertoire of blues, jazz, folk, and rock tunes, along with several fine originals and songs by other contemporary composers. He's accompanied by percussionist Shimmin. 8-9:30 p.m., Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd., ste. 1. Tickets \$8 (2 for \$15). 327-0270.

“The Fantasticks”: Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. See 9 Thursday. 8 p.m.

12 SUNDAY

★**“On Convergence of Spirituality and Science”:** First United Methodist Church Conversations About Science and Religion. All invited to join a discussion led by reverend and writer Ken Whitt. 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m., FUMC Calkins Hall, 120 S. State. Free. 662-4536.

★**“Sustainable Agriculture for the 21st Century”:** First Congregational Church Contemporary Issues Committee. Talk by local organic farm, Tantré Farm, owner Richard Andres. 11:10 a.m., FCC Mayflower Rm., 608 E. William. Free. 662-1679.

★**Shape Note Singing:** Ann Arbor Sacred Harp. All invited to join an afternoon of shape note, or sacred harp, singing, a form of communal hymn singing that has its roots in colonial America. Sacred Harp songbooks available, but singers encouraged to bring their own. 1-4 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Free, donations accepted for music scholarships. 678-7549, 663-0262.

★**“Send-Off Exhibition”:** Ann Arbor Figure Skating Club. Performance by the club's synchronized skating teams, the Hockettes, in anticipation of their upcoming participation in the 2020 Midwestern Synchronized Skating Sectional Championships. Also, performances by local Special Olympics skaters in anticipation of their upcoming participation in the Special Olympics State Games. 1:15 p.m., Ann Arbor Ice Cube, 2121 Oak Valley Dr. Free. 213-6768.

★**“Take Your Pick: Collecting Found Photographs”:** UMMA. Docent-led tour of the current historical exhibit of found amateur photography. 2-3 p.m., meet in the UMMA forum, 525 S. State. Free. 764-0395.

★**“Piano Party!”:** King's Keyboard House. Pianists of all levels invited to play 1-2 pieces at this open mic. 2-4 p.m., King's Keyboard House, 2363 E. Stadium. Free, Preregistration requested. 663-3381.

Ben Lougheed: Kerrystown Concert House. This acclaimed classical guitarist, an Ann Arbor native, performs Baroque music by Bach and Scarlatti, along with 20th-century works by Astor Piazzolla, Agustín Barrios, & Joaquín Turina. 2 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Tickets \$20-\$40 (students, \$10) in advance at a2tix.com. 769-2999.

“The Fantasticks”: Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. See 9 Thursday. 2 p.m.

★**Chess Learn & Play:** Sweetwaters Plymouth Green. All invited to play chess, with instructions for beginners. Boards provided, or bring your own. 2-4 p.m., Sweetwaters, 3393 Plymouth Rd. Free admission. 369-4568.

★**Winter Concert:** U-M Life Sciences Orchestra. This ensemble of musicians from the U-M medical and life sciences staff performs Beethoven's *Fidelio* Overture, Maurice Ravel's *Mother Goose Suite*, and Jean Sibelius' Symphony No. 1 in E Minor. Preceded at 3:15 p.m. by a lecture on the program. 4 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 936-2787.

“What's In a Song?”: University Musical Society. See 10 Friday. 4 p.m.

★**“The Current”:** Booked for Murder Mystery Book Club. All invited to join a discussion of Tim Johnston's 2019 novel about the discovery of 2 women in a frozen river—one dead, one alive—and an eerily similar 20-year-old crime. 4:30 p.m., Nicola's Books, Westgate shopping center. Free. 769-2149.

“Ann Arbor (Mostly) Acoustic Jam.” Jan. 12 & 26. Musicians of all ability levels and ages invited to sing and play anything from classic rock, Motown, and blues to bluegrass, folk, and country. All acoustic instruments (strings, horns, and woodwinds) welcome. Led by veteran local musicians Bill Connors and Phil McMillion. The 2nd Sunday of each month features a focus song, followed by jamming. The 4th Sunday features an open mic for solo, duo, and trio performers, followed by jamming. Also, a session for songwriters (Jan. 19, Great Oak Cohousing common area, 500 Little Lake Dr.) to try out new work and get feedback. 7-9 p.m., U-M Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. \$5 for participants, spectators free; preregistration required at Meetup.com/Ann-Arbor-Acoustic-Jam. 973-7791.

“8 Pointless Minutes: A Long Form Improv Jam”:

Pointless Brewery & Theatre. All invited to form groups to perform an 8-minute improv sketch. No experience necessary. Spectators welcome. 7:30 p.m., Pointless, 3014 Packard. Pay what you can. (989) 455-4484.

13 MONDAY

★**Weekly Rehearsal:** Women's Chamber Chorus. Every Mon., Jan. 13-Apr. 20. All invited to join this independent 30-member local women's chorus to sing everything from Bach to folk songs and madrigals to pop tunes. David Peramble directs. 10-11:30 a.m., First Presbyterian Church, 1432 Washtenaw. Free to visitors (\$125 per semester dues for those who join). WomensChamberChorus.com, 665-9271.

★**Kiley Reid: Literati Bookstore.** This Iowa Writers Workshop alum reads from *Such a Fun Age*, her new novel about a young black babysitter falsely accused of kidnapping her white employer's child, a situation only made worse when the employer attempts to set the record straight. Signing. 7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585-5567.

★“Textile Traditions of Mexico: Textiles and Dress as a Cultural Expression”: Ann Arbor Fiberarts Guild. Talk by local Mexican tour company founder Stephanie Schneiderman. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by socializing. 7 p.m., Zion Lutheran Church, 1501 W. Liberty. Free. AnnArborFiberArts@gmail.com

★“Civil War Letters & Correspondences”: Ann Arbor Civil War Round Table. Talk by Illinois College history professor emeritus Jim Davis. 7 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Administrative Bldg. Education Center exhibition rm., 5305 Elliott Dr. Free. (517) 750-2741.

★“Town Hall on the Implementation of the 2020 Census, the Citizens Redistricting Commission, and MI’s New Voter Rights”: Ann Arbor District Library. All invited to join a discussion led by League of Women Voters members. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown multipurpose rm., 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4200.

★“Sewing Lab”: Ann Arbor District Library. Jan. 13 & 27. All invited to get basic sewing help with their unfinished projects or learn how to use the AADL sewing machines. Bring your own sewing machine, if you wish. No experience necessary. Also, local crafter Amber Adams-Fall shows how to make a zigzag stitch seam finish (Jan. 13) and demonstrates cutting fabric (Jan. 27). 7-8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4200.

★Ann Arbor Stamp Club. All invited to a panel discussion by club members of how to assemble a stamp or postal history exhibit. Also, a mini stamp auction. 7:30 p.m., Salvation Army, 100 Arbana (park & enter at the rear of the building). Free. arbor@provide.net, 761-5859.

★Scandinavian Music Jam. Bruce Sagan and Brad Battey lead an acoustic jam session devoted to traditional music from Sweden and Norway. All musicians invited. 7:30-9:30 p.m., Great Oak Cohousing common area, 500 Little Lake Dr. Free. (908) 721-2599.

14 TUESDAY

★“Simple Steps for Starting Your Business”: Ann Arbor District Library. Local SCORE business management counselor Kathryn Myers discusses myths & realities of entrepreneurship, funding & cash management, and other critical issues in starting a business. 6-8 p.m., AADL Downtown multipurpose rm., 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4200.

★“Magic: The Gathering”: Ann Arbor District Library. All invited to compete in an informal session of this popular collectible card game. No official judges or format. Bring your own cards or use those available. No experience necessary. 6-8 p.m., AADL Westgate. Free. 327-4200.

★“Code Lab: Animation Using Processing”: Ann Arbor District Library. All invited to explore simple and advanced video animation techniques using the processing coding language on a Raspberry Pi. Bring your own Pi, if you wish. No experience necessary. 6:30-8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4200.

★“Swarm Biology and Swarm Control”: Ann Arbor Backyard Beekeepers. Beekeeper Meghan Milbrath discusses managing bee colonies. 6:30-8:45 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free, metered parking. A2B2club@gmail.com

“Bluegrass Jam Circle”: Ann Arbor Senior Center. Jan. 14 & 28. All musicians invited to bring their acoustic instruments to play bluegrass-style music. Vocalists welcome, too. 7-9 p.m., Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin Ave. \$5 fee to cover building rental. a2blueGrass.com, 794-6250.

★“Perfect Breakfast Pastries”: Ann Arbor District Library. Lakehouse Bakery (Chelsea) owner Keegan Rodgers demonstrates how to make various pastries, highlighted by crepes, crescents, & Danishes. Tastings. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL Mallett Creek, 3090 E. Eisenhower. Free. 327-4200.

★“Snow Crash”: Fantasy and Science Fiction/Theory Reading Group: U-M English Department. All age 21 & over invited to discuss Neal Stephenson’s 1992 cyberpunk novel about a fight to prevent a computer virus-triggered “infocalypse”. 7-9 p.m., 3154 Angell Hall. Free. 764-2553.

★“Pub Sing”: Ann Arbor Morris. Local Morris dancers lead an evening of rousing choruses, drinking songs, sea shanties, and English folk songs. 7-10 p.m., Wolverine State Brewing Co., 2019 W. Stadium. Free. Food & drinks for sale. (908) 721-2599.

★“A Wilder Time: Notes from a Geologist at the Edge of the Greenland Ice”: Sierra Club Book Club. All invited to discuss this 2018 book by

William E. Glassley. 7:30 p.m., Nicola’s, Westgate shopping center, 2513 Jackson. Free. 971-1157.

★Gerald Cleaver’s Violet Hours: U-M School of Music. Performance by a jazz ensemble led by Detroit jazz drummer-composer Cleaver. 7:30 p.m., U-M Moore Bldg. McIntosh Theatre, 1100 Baits. Free. 615-3204.

“Gordon Grdina’s Nomad Trio”: Kerrystown Concert House. Avant-garde jazz by an ensemble led by Grdina, a Vancouver-based guitarist whose music is known for its blend of free form improvisation with elements of postpunk rock, 20th-century classical music, and the jazz-classical synthesis known as “third stream.” With NYC pianist Matt Mitchell and NYC drummer Jim Black. 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$10-\$30 in advance at a2tix.com. 769-2999.

15 WEDNESDAY

★“Media, Information, & the U.S.-Russia Relationship”: U-M Ford School Weiser Diplomacy Center. Conversation between noted Russian journalist and political scientist Yevgenia Albats and recently retired U.S. diplomat Susan Elliott. U-M international policy professor Melvyn Levitsky moderates. 4-5:30 p.m., Weill Hall Annenberg Auditorium, 735 S. State. Free. 998-9351.

★Open House: City of Ann Arbor. All invited to drop in and input thoughts about the Center of the City Commons, a proposed urban central park. 6-8 p.m., Ann Arbor Spark, 330 E. Liberty. Free. a2gov.org/CityCenter. 794-6430 ext. 42590.

★“Drumminuity!” Local drummer & drum teacher Lori Fithian leads a drum circle. Instruments provided, or bring your own. Kids welcome. Preceded at 6:45 p.m. by a brief drum lesson. 7-9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room, 114 S. Main. Free. 426-7818.

★“Rainstick Instrument”: Ann Arbor District Library. Local crafter Dawn Henry demonstrates how to make a musical instrument that reproduces rain sounds using cardboard tubes, beans, rice, toothpicks, nails, fabric, feathers, & more. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL Pittsfield, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. Free. 327-4200.

★“Downstream from Here: A Big Life in a Small Place”: Literati Bookstore. Former *Time* correspondent and U-M journalism professor Charles R. Eisendrath reads from his new collection of essays about his personal and professional experiences and the fleeting moments that shape a person permanently. Signing. 7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585-5567.

★“Culinary History Reading Group: Motte & Bailey Booksellers. All invited to discuss Port, Rupert Croft-Cooke’s 1957 book about port wine. 7:30-9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669-0451.

★“Birding Ecuador”: Washtenaw Audubon Society. WAS member April Campbell discusses this popular bird-rich destination. Preceded at 7:10 p.m. by snacks & socializing. 7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free, metered parking. WashtenawAudubon.org

★“What Is ‘Socialism’ & ‘Fascism?’”: Ann Arbor Area League of Women Voters Brews & Views. All invited to join this discussion (set in the context of the 2020 election) led by a moderator TBA. Preceded at 7 p.m. by socializing. 7:30-9 p.m., Pointless Brewery, 2014 Packard. Free, food & drink for sale. 272-3634.

“Comedy Jamm”: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 8 Wednesday. 7:30 p.m.

★Poetry Salon: One Pause Poetry. Jan. 15, 22, & 29. Members, and interested nonmembers, read and discuss poems on various themes. Followed by collaborative writing games and exercises. Snacks & socializing. 8-10 p.m., Argus Farm Stop greenhouse, 325 W. Liberty. \$5 suggested donation. OnePausePoetry.org, 707-1284.

16 THURSDAY

★“Belly Dance Fitness Workout”: International Neighbors. Local Ta’amulat dance troupe co-director Pauline Costianes leads participants in this ancient and exhilarating form of dance. All area women invited. 1-2:30 p.m., Zion Lutheran Church, 1501 W. Liberty. Free. International-Neighbors.org

★“Penny Stamps Speaker Series”: U-M School of Art & Design. Jan. 16, 23, & 30. Talks by visiting artists. Jan. 16: “Theater and Democracy.” Talk by artistic director of NYC’s The Public Theater Oskar Eustis, who has produced award-winning productions such as *Hamilton* and *Fun Home*. Jan. 23: “Abstract Meditations on the Grid and Humanity.” Talk by multimedia artist Cullen Washington, whose large-scale, abstract installations are currently on display at the UMMA. Jan. 30: “Theater of Justice.” Chief Justice Bridget Mary McCormack of the MI Supreme Court, lawyer Len Niehoff, and actor John de Lancie discuss how drama informs the workings of the courtroom and

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Hear from the artist: “Abstract Meditations on the Grid and Humanity” Thursday, January 23, 5:10 p.m., Michigan Theater, Free

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Lead support for *Cullen Washington Jr.: The Public Square* is provided by Erica Gervais Pappendick and Ted Pappendick, the University of Michigan Office of the Provost, Michigan Medicine, the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, and the Institute for the Humanities. Additional generous support is provided by the University of Michigan Department of History of Art, School of Education, School of Social Work, and Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy.

Cullen Washington, Jr., *Agora 3* (detail), 2018, mixed media collage on canvas. Courtesy the artist.

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★“Music Tools Lab: Intro to DAWs & Recording”: Ann Arbor District Library. AADL staffers offer a hands-on introduction on how to use the AudioBox iTwo to record music with a Digital Audio Workstation (DAW). 6:30–8 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4200.

“Meet the Cheese: Gouda”: Zingerman’s Creamery. Staffers discuss texture, flavor, & more about this popular cheese. Tastings. 7–8:30 p.m., Zingerman’s Creamery, 3723 Plaza Dr. \$15, pre-registration required. 929-0500.

★“Grown Folks Story Time: Winter Stinks!”: Bookbound. Local writers Patti Smith, Ken MacGregor, and others tell original stories and twists on childhood favorites. Bring your own pillows and blankets, if you like. Snacks. Adults only. 7 p.m., Bookbound, 1729 Plymouth Rd., Courtyard Shops. Free. 369-4345.

★Carmen Bugan: Literati Bookstore. This acclaimed poet, known for writing about her life in Communist-era Romania, reads from *Lilies from America*, her 2019 collection of new & selected poems that explore childhood in Romania, traditional rural worlds, state surveillance, incarceration, urban life, the passage of time, and more. Signing. 7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585-5567.

★“Nerd Nite”: Ann Arbor District Library. Popular monthly event featuring several speakers TBA (at AnnArbor.NerdNite.com) who give fun yet informative 20-minute talks about things that interest them—everything from time-traveling Vikings to the science of consciousness and the history of felines in movies. 7–9:30 p.m. or later (doors open at 6:30 p.m.), Live, 102 S. First. Free. 327-4200.

★“Literatin: Essays at the Intersection of Medicine and Culture”: Nicola’s Books. U-M Center for the History of Medicine director Howard Markel, author of the bestselling *An Anatomy of Addiction*, discusses his brand-new collection of new and old essays about how both literature and medicine record and interpret narratives. Signing. 7 p.m., Nicola’s Books, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662-0600.

★Gaelynn Lea: U-M School of Music. Performance by this indie-folk singer-songwriter, violinist, and disability activist, who performs Celtic-inspired songs from her electric wheelchair, accompanying herself on electric violin and a looping pedal. 7 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin. Free. 615-3204.

Andy Hendrickson: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. Jan. 16–18. NYC-based observational comic known for his wry sense of humor and engaging conversational delivery. Preceded by 2 opening acts TBA. Alcohol is served. 7:30 p.m. (Thurs.–Sat.) & 10 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 212 S. Fourth Ave. \$10 (Thurs.) & \$13 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance at etix.com before 6 p.m. the night of the show; \$12 (Thurs.) & \$15 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996-9080.

“Roadsigns”: Purple Rose Theatre Company. Every Wed.–Sun., Jan. 16–Mar. 14. Guy Sanville directs the world premiere of Purple Rose founder Jeff Daniels’ new play, a lyrical drama about a young poet who, as he embarks on his own life’s journey, encounters a rich gallery of characters on the margins of life who are each following a dream, or hoping to bump into one. Cast: David Bendena, Tom Whalen, Richard McWilliams, Rusty Mewha, Ruth Crawford, K. Edmonds, Kristin Shields, and Caitlin Cavanaugh. 8 p.m. (Thurs.–Sat.), 3 p.m. (Wed. & Sat.), & 2 p.m. (Sun.), Purple Rose Theatre, 137 Park St., Chelsea. Tickets \$32 (Wed.), \$28 (Thurs.), \$42 (Fri. eve.), \$43 (weekend matinees), \$46 (Sat. eve.) in advance (beginning Dec. 11) at PurpleRoseTheatre.org and by phone, and (if available) at the door. Discounts available for students, seniors, teachers, military personnel, and groups. 433-7673.

17 FRIDAY

★“Fix-It Friday”: Maker Works. All invited to bring anything that needs fixing—chairs, sweaters, radios, whatever. Maker Works members and staff on hand to help and offer advice. Repairs not guaranteed. 4–6 p.m., Maker Works, 3765 Plaza Dr. Free. 222-4911.

★“Herman Miller: A Way of Living”: Ann Arbor District Library. Archivist Amy Auscherman discusses her new book chronicling this innovative Michigan-based furniture company founded in 1905. 7–8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown multipurpose rm, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4200.

★Kate Wisel: Literati Bookstore. This Chicago-based poet and fiction writer reads from *Driving in Cars with Homeless Men*, her 2019 book of short stories about the daily lives of a group of working-class women in Boston. 7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585-5567.

“Creatures of the Night”: The Creature Conservancy. All adults invited to view nocturnal animals in their habitats. Also, educational presentation of a sloth. Followed by a chance to view the flight of an Egyptian fruit bat colony. 7–9 p.m., Creature Conservancy, 4950 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. \$15 plus a donation towards animal care (e.g. grain-free cat and dog food, pet-safe squeaky toys, canned tuna, paper towels, & macaw toys, etc.); preregistration required at TheCreatureConservancy.org. 929-9324.

★“Metamorphoses”: U-M Residential College Drama Concentration/U-M RC Players. Jan. 17–19. Riley Russell & Sammi Doll direct a cast of 10 fellow RC students in Mary Zimmerman’s Tony-winning 2001 drama, a contemporary medley of a dozen myths, each with a lesson to teach, adapted from the Roman poet Ovid’s *Metamorphoses*. Including such familiar stories as King Midas, Narcissus, and Orpheus & Eurydice. 7 p.m., Keene Theatre, East Quad, 701 East University. Free (suggested donation, \$5). 647-4354.

★“One-Act Festival”: U-M Basement Arts. Jan. 17 & 18 (different programs). U-M students perform a collection of one-act plays, some student-written. Tonight: Meme Garcia’s *Love U Know*, current U-M student Skylar Siben’s *Her Jason*, David Ives’ *Foreplay, or the Art of Fugue*, & Madeleine George’s *The Most Massive Woman Wins*. 7 p.m. & 11 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Newman Studio, 1226 Murfin. Free. facebook.com/basementarts

“Emergence: 68th Annual Faculty and Guest Artist Choreography Concert”: EMU Dance Department. Jan. 17–19. EMU dance majors perform a mixed repertoire of contemporary, ballet, and hip-hop works choreographed by EMU dance professor Sherry Jerome-Wilkinson and several guest artists, including EMU Dance lecturer Molly Paberzs, Detroit Dance Collective co-founder Barbara Selinger, Next Step Dance (FL) artistic director William Crowley, Alexandria Davis Dance Company (FL) owner Alexandria Davis, and WMU dance professor David Curwen. 7 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.) & 1 p.m. (Sun.), EMU Quirk Theater, 124 Quirk Hall, Ypsilanti. Tickets \$10 (students, \$8) in advance at EMUitix.com and at the door. 487-2282.

★“Writings of Nature and Spirit”: Michigan Friends Center. All invited to discuss literary characterizations of the restorative power of Nature with local writer Dwight Wilson. 7:30 p.m., Michigan Friends Center, 7748 Clark Lake Rd., Chelsea. Free, donations appreciated. 475-1892.

“FutureStars 2019”: Pioneer High School. Jan. 17, 18, & 25 (different programs). AAPS high school students sing, dance, rap, and more in this multiday variety talent show. A panel of judges and the audience determine the winners, who compete in the Jan. 25 finale. All ages welcome. This is a very popular show. Note: The 9:30 p.m. shows are open only to students. 7:30 p.m., PHS Schreiber Auditorium, 601 W. Stadium at Main. Tickets \$15 (students, seniors age 65 & over, \$10) in advance at a2tix.com. 994-2120.

Andy Hendrickson: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 16 Thursday, 7:30 & 10 p.m.

“Sean Dobbins & Vincent Chandler”: Kerrytown Concert House Jazz Masters Series. Detroit-based drummer Dobbins is joined by trombonist and fellow WSU jazz professor Chandler. 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$20–\$40 (students, \$10) in advance at a2tix.com. 769-2999.

“The Music of Great Hollywood Movies”: Out Loud Chorus. Jan 17 & 18. New artistic director Dari DeWeese directs this chorus of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender people and their friends in a program of the popular songs from movies, including “Another Day of Sun” (*La La Land*), “Dancing Queen” (*Mamma Mia*), “Skyfall” (James Bond’s *Skyfall*), “Gimme Some Lovin’” (*The Blues Brothers*), & more. With pianists Nicholas Roehler & Michael McElvain, bassist Edie Herrold, and drummer Tamara Perkuhn. 8 p.m., WCC Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River. Tickets \$18 (students & seniors, \$15; unemployed or age 5 & under, free) in advance at OLConline.org; \$15 at the door. 265-0740.

“Roadsigns”: Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 16 Thursday, 8 p.m.

18 SATURDAY

★“Learn How to Use Your Holiday Gifts”: MacTechnics. Club member Fred Seitz introduces apps that focus on WiFi reception (9 a.m.), and club members show how to use recently released Macintosh computers, tablets, and other gadgets (11 a.m.). 9 a.m.–1 p.m., NEW Center, 1100 N. Main. Free. Contact@MacTechnics.org

★Death Café. All invited to join a frank conversation about death. Hosted by After Death Home Care founder Merilynne Rush and Diana Cramer. Tea & cake served. 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room, 114 S. Main. Free. 395-9660.

ROADSIGNS

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MUSIC BY JEFF DANIELS & BEN DANIELS

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★Measuring Difficult Orchids: Great Lakes Orchids Judging. Orchid judge Dave Miller explains how flower parts are measured and described in competition. Orchid judging. 11 a.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free admission, metered parking. 647-7600.

★"Drag Bingo": Ann Arbor District Library. All invited to join area Drag Queen Jadein Black in a session of bingo with music & prizes. 1-2 p.m., AADL Downtown multipurpose rm., 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4200.

★"The Marie Azary Rock Garden": North American Rock Garden Society. U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens horticulturist Mike Palmer discusses the history of this Matthaei rock garden and plans for its renovation. 1 p.m., Matthaei, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free; metered parking. 647-7600.

"Roadsigns": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 16 Thursday. 3 p.m. & 8 p.m.

★"Metamorphoses": U-M Residential College Drama Concentration. See 17 Friday. 7 p.m.

"Emergence: 68th Annual Faculty and Guest Artist Choreography Concert": EMU Dance Department. See 17 Friday. 7 p.m.

36th Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday Ball: National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women. Dinner followed by dancing to music spun by a DJ. Evening attire. Also, a keynote address by Detroit radio personality **John Mason**. Proceeds benefit a NANBPW scholarship fund. 7 p.m., DoubleTree by Hilton, 3600 Plymouth Rd. Tickets \$65 in advance at aaNANBPW.org. 355-2099.

★"One-Act Festival": U-M Basement Arts. See 17 Friday. Tonight: Shel Silverstein's *One Tennis Shoe*, Amy Beth Arkaway's *Rage Amongst Ourselves*, and U-M student Matthew Harmon's *Exhibits in the Zoo*. 7 p.m. & 11 p.m.

★"Letters to a Dead Friend about Zen": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room. All invited to join a discussion, led by Crazy Wisdom staffer Deb Flint, of Ohio-based writer & Soto Zen priest Brad Warner's 2019 book. 7:30-9 p.m., *Crazy Wisdom*, 114 S. Main. Free. 665-2757.

"Trivia with Cats": Tiny Lions Lounge and Adoption Center. All 18 & older invited to play trivia and cuddle with adoptable cats. Drinks & popcorn. Admission includes 2 beer and wine tickets (age 21 & over only). Bring your own nonalcoholic beverages, if you wish. 7:30 p.m., *Tiny Lions*, 5245 Jackson Rd., ste. A1. \$15. Preregistration available at tinylions.org/trivia. 661-3575.

3rd Saturday Contra Dance: Pittsfield Union Grange. Megan Wilson calls to music by Hotline Strings. No partner needed. Beginners welcome. Bring flat, clean shoes. Preceded at 7 p.m. by a lesson. 7:30-10:30 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Pay what you can (\$10 suggested). 476-4650.

Andy Hendrickson: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 16 Thursday. 7:30 & 10 p.m.

"Mozart Birthday Bash": Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra. A2SO music director Arie Lipsky conducts the orchestra and guest soloist **Itamar Zorman**, a renowned Israeli violinist, in a program celebrating Mozart's 263rd birthday. The program includes a collection of choruses from *The Magic Flute*, *The Marriage of Figaro*, and other Mozart operas, plus his Violin Concerto No. 5 and Symphony No. 29. With local chamber choir **Vocal Arts Ensemble** and narration by **Stephen West**. 8 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets \$20-\$75 in advance at a2so.com & the A2SO office (35 Research Dr., ste. 100), and (if available) at the door. 994-4801.

Annual Collage Concert: U-M School of Music. U-M music students perform an hour of nonstop music in a wide range of contrasting styles. Classical, jazz, big band, vocal, and pop ensembles and soloists segue rapidly from one idiom to the next. This is one of the music school's most popular events. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets \$28 & \$34 (students with ID, \$13), in advance at tickets.smtm.umich.edu, the Michigan League Ticket Office, and (if available) at the door. 764-2538.

The Andrew Collins Trio: Stony Lake Brewing Acoustic Routes Concert. Two-time winners of the Canadian Folk Music Awards "Instrumental Group of the Year," this Toronto-based string trio led by mandolin virtuoso Collins plays what an R2 Magazine writer calls "raw and grooving bluegrass music [with] the grace and sophistication of a classical string quartet." 8 p.m., Stony Lake Brewing, 447 E. Michigan Ave., Saline. \$15 at the door only. 316-7919.

"The Music of Great Hollywood Movies": Out Loud Chorus. See 17 Friday. 8 p.m.

Planet D: Kerrytown Concert House. This award-winning Detroit ensemble, a self-styled "space-age swing band" founded by drummer RJ Spangler and trumpeter James O'Donnell, presents "Crescent City Meets Kansas City," a program of vintage swing & jazz music featuring songs by New Orleans singer-songwriter and banjo/guitar player Danny Barker,

Kansas City-based jazz composer and electric guitar pioneer Eddie Durham, and Kansas City blues stylist Julia Lee. 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$20-\$40 (students, \$10) in advance at a2tix.com. 769-2999.

19 SUNDAY

"Monster Ann Arbor Record & CD Collector's Show": Rerun Records. Popular fair with more than 50 dealers from a half dozen states selling rare and collectible used records and CDs, as well as hard-to-find new releases. Includes every popular music genre, along with rock music books, rock videos, posters, and assorted popular culture memorabilia. Food and beverages for sale. Patrons may bring in a small amount of records to sell. 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Weber's Inn, 3050 Jackson Rd. \$3 regular admission (children age 10 & under, free); \$15 early bird admission. For information or to reserve a dealer table, contact Rod Branham at 604-2540.

★Introductory Dharma Talk: Jewel Heart Buddhist Center. Talk by Jewel Heart's resident spiritual advisor Demo Rinpoche on various aspects of Tibetan Buddhism. Followed by tea, snacks, and socializing. 11 a.m.-noon. Jewel Heart, 1129 Oak Valley Dr. Free, donations accepted. 994-3387.

★"14th Annual Worst Day of the Year Ride": Wheels in Motion Cycle and Fitness. All invited to join rides of 12, 20, & 40 miles around Ann Arbor. Also, an "Abominable Snowman" fat-tire bike loop and a 16-mile mountain bike ride. All rides end at Conor O'Neill's (attended bike parking). Hot soup and a cash bar. Helmets required. 12:30 p.m. (40-mile ride), 1 p.m. (20-mile ride), 1:15 p.m. (fat-tire bike ride), 1:30 p.m. (16-mile mountain bike ride), & 2 p.m. (12-mile ride), meet at the Farmers Market in Kerrytown. Reservations requested at WheelsInMotion.us. Free. 971-2121.

"Emergence: 68th Annual Faculty and Guest Artist Choreography Concert": EMU Dance Department. See 17 Friday. 1 p.m.

"Cuellar's Critters": Waterloo Natural History Association. Cuellar's Critters (SE MI) owner Joby Cuellar shows various live animals from around the world in this educational and entertaining program. 2-3 p.m., Eddy Discovery Center, 17030 Bush Rd., Chelsea. \$2 (families, \$5), preregistration required; recreation passport required (\$16 if purchased at the gate). 475-3170.

★"Threat Modeling": Ann Arbor District Library. Cryptoparty Ann Arbor representatives discuss this digital security concept. 2-4 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4200.

"Variants": Ann Arbor Concert Band. James Nissen conducts this local volunteer ensemble in Aaron Copland's *Fanfare for the Common Man*, Vincent Persichetti's *Divertimento*, Norman Dello Joio's *Variants on a Medieval Tune and Scenes from the Louvre*, contemporary English composer Philip Sparke's *Sunrise at Angel's Gate and Fairest of the Fair*, and Respighi's *Pines of the Appian Way*. 2 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets \$10 (seniors & students, \$5; kids age 11 & under, free) in advance at mkt.com/aacb and at the door. 478-7515.

"Roadsigns": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 16 Thurs. 2 p.m.

★"Mari Katayama": UMMA. Docent-led tour of the current exhibit of art by this Japanese artist, a double amputee who features her own body in provocative works that combine photography, sculpture, and textiles. 2-3 p.m., meet in the UMMA forum, 525 S. State. Free. 764-0395.

★"The Right to Be Cold: One Woman's Story of Protecting Her Culture, the Arctic and the Whole Planet": UMMA Book Club. All invited to join a discussion of Sheila Watt-Cloutier's 2015 book, led by Detroit-based Powhatan storyteller and U-M Afroamerican and African Studies program manager Elizabeth James. 3-4 p.m., UMMA Eleanor Noyes Crumpacker Gallery, 525 S. State. Free. 764-0395.

★"Defining Cups & Saucers": Culinary Historians of Ann Arbor. Local International Museum of Dinnerware Design director Margaret Carney discusses the lively collection of mixed-era and medium cups & saucers on display at the Albion College Munro gallery. 3-5 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek, 3090 E. Eisenhower. Free. 327-4200.

Isabella Mansfield: Ann Arbor Poetry. Reading by this Howell-based poet who writes about the gamut of human emotions in a spunky, cheerful, and tenacious style. 7 p.m., Espresso Royale, 324 S. State. \$5 suggested donation. Facebook.com/AnnArborPoetry

"All My Sons": University Musical Society. Live broadcast of the National Theatre (London) production of Arthur Miller's 1947 play, a dramatic indictment of American big business told through the story of a family torn apart by lies and fraud. Jeremy Herrin directs this salient reminder of the ways everyday demands can lead people to compromise their moral integrity. Sally Field, Bill Pullman. 7 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets \$22 (students, \$12-

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OLLI EVENTS - **Sign up is required as registration is limited.**

All events below are held at Washtenaw Community College, Morris Lawrence Building, 4800 E. Huron River Dr., Ann Arbor.

OLLI Open House
What We Do Flows From Who We Are
Free and open to the public

Monday, January 13, 10am-12:30pm

- Meet with friends
- Explore new program options
- Exchange books (bring 2 books to exchange)
- Become a member
- Ask questions about OLLI
- Register for OLLI programs
- Volunteer for an OLLI committee
- Participate in OLLI Get to Know You activities

Program begins at 10:45am

Lisa Barton, OLLI-UM Director
Dr. Rose Bellanca, President, Washtenaw Community College
Breeda Miller, Presenter and Storyteller

Light Lunch at 11:30am

Distinguished Lecture Series
Sept. 10-June 9, 2020, One Tuesday per month, 10:00-11:30 a.m. unless otherwise noted. \$10-day pass, \$30 series of 5.

Tuesday, January 14 - Living Transgender - The Struggles and Rewards with Max, Will, and Stephanie

Thursday Morning Lecture Series
January - February, 10:00-11:30am unless otherwise noted. \$35 series of 6, \$10-day pass. Registration required. Capacity is limited.

"The Impact of Social Media on Society"
January 9 - Social Media Research: What We Know Now with Professor Cliff Lampe
January 16 - Mobile Media and Parenting with Professor Jenny Radesky
January 23 - How Do Online Social Networks Influence People's Emotional Lives? with Professor Ethan Kross

Special Events - Facing the Future: The Challenge of Climate Change Series. This five-part series explores how climate change is impacting every corner of our earth, and every aspect of our lives. The monthly lectures feature national experts examining the most up-to-date information about this critical issue. This series will take place once a month, on Fridays, January-May, 2020. Cost: \$10-day pass. \$35 per series of five.

Friday, January 17, 10:00-11:30am

Planet in Peril with Jonathan T. Overpeck. Registration required. Capacity is limited.

Register and View All Program Offerings At:
www.elli-umich.org | 734-998-9351

2401 Plymouth Rd, Suite C, Ann Arbor, MI 48105

Programming for those 50+. \$25 for annual membership, valid through August 2020. A community program of the Geriatrics Center. Scholarships available for all OLLI programs and memberships. The views expressed are those of the speaker and do not necessarily reflect those of OLLI-UM or the University of Michigan.



Enrollment Opportunities

Honey Creek Community School

A free public charter school, K-8.

NCA Accreditation

Enrollment Meetings for 2020 will be held on Monday, January 13th at 6:00PM & Saturday, January 25th at 10:30AM. We will be at the Willow Run Middle School—235 Spencer Lane, Ypsilanti—for the next 1.5 years to 2 years. This is due to the SE millage being passed in August to allow a new school to be built at the Wagner Rd. site. Many 1st grade spots available!

Small classes (20:1) emphasizing strong interpersonal connections between teachers, students, and parents, project-based thematic learning, and curriculum based service-learning.

Call (734) 994-2636 for more information.

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January
28

6:00-7:30
PM

the discovery center

the discovery center

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E-mail: thediscoverycenter@thediscoverycenterpreschool.com
Website: thediscoverycenterpreschool.com

\$20; MTF members, \$18) in advance at Tickets. UMS.org, the Michigan League, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764-2538.

★“Metamorphoses”: U-M Residential College Drama Concentration. See 17 Friday. 7 p.m.

★Beethoven’s Early Piano Sonatas on Period Instruments: U-M School of Music. See 11 Saturday. 7:30 p.m.

20 MONDAY

(MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY)

★34th Annual Keynote Memorial Lecture: U-M MLK Symposium. Talk by Angela Davis, the renowned, controversial Civil rights & political activist and writer who founded Critical Resistance, an organization dedicated to dismantling the prison-industrial complex. Also, a Children & Youth Program (see Kids Calendar, p. 66). For the full schedule of the symposium, see oami.umich.edu/um-mlk-symposium. 10 a.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 936-1055.

★“Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Speaks”: Ann Arbor District Library. All invited to drop in and watch videos of MLK’s speeches. Also, you can add to a community sculpture (1–5 p.m., AADL Downtown 1st fl. lobby) inspired by an MLK speech, and join the local Veterans for Peace chapter to discuss the relevance of MLK’s speeches as they relate to war & militarism (7–8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown multipurpose rm.). 12:30–8:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek (3090 E. Eisenhower) & AADL Pittsfield (2359 Oak Valley). Free. 327-4200.

Itamar Zorman: Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra Chamber Concert. This renowned Israeli violinist, an AASO visiting musician, performs Shostakovich’s Piano Trio no. 1 and Brahms’ Piano Quartet no. 1. With Kathryn Votapek on viola, cellist Tobias Werner, and pianist Amy I-Lin Cheng. Preceded by refreshments. 1:30 p.m., Jewish Community Center, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Tickets \$10 in advance at a2so.com & the AASO office (35 Research Dr., ste. 100). 994-4801.

★Terrence Roberts: EMU 34th Annual MLK Day Celebration Keynote Lecture. Talk by this member of the “Little Rock Nine” who desegregated Little Rock (AR) Central High School in 1957 following the 1955 Brown v. Board of Education case. Awarded the Congressional Gold Medal in 1999, Roberts is the owner of a consulting firm that promotes fair & equitable business practices. 2 p.m., EMU Student Center Auditorium, 900 Oakwood, Ypsilanti. Free. 487-1849.

★“Circle of Unity”: U-M Michigan Community Scholars Program. All invited to listen to or join a program of impromptu performances of song, dance, and spoken word pieces inspired by Martin Luther King Jr. Also, performances by local singer-songwriter Joe Reilly, Detroit singer-guitarist Julie Beutel, the U-M Gospel Chorale, U-M student choir Smile Bringer Singers, and more. 2–3 p.m., U-M Diag. Free. (708) 506-1677.

★“Brown v. Board of Education: The Legacy Continues”: U-M Library. Cheryl Brown Henderson, president of the Brown Foundation for Educational Equity, Excellence and Research, talks about her personal experience with segregated schools. 2–4 p.m., Michigan League Ballroom. Free. 764-0400.

★“Ecological Classification of the Forested River Floodplains of Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge”: Michigan Botanical Club. Presentation by WSU ecologist Douglas Putt. 7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free, metered parking. 647-7600.

21 TUESDAY

“Hungry for Hungary”: Zingerman’s Roadhouse. Taste Hungary (Budapest) food tour owner Gábor Bánfalvi hosts a 4-course Hungarian meal with Hungarian wine pairings. Also, Zingerman’s Bakehouse manager Amy Emberling demonstrates how to make strudel. 7–9 p.m., Zingerman’s Roadhouse, 2501 Jackson Ave. Tickets \$115 (without wine, \$75), preregistration required. 663-3663.

★“Soundwalk”: Ann Arbor District Library. Michigan sonic artist, singer, and writer Zeynep Özcan guides a walk downtown, encouraging participants to listen closely to the sonic environment. Dress for the weather. 6:30–8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4200.

★Alexander Weinstein: Literati Bookstore. This U-M and Siena Heights University English professor, also director of the Martha’s Vineyard Institute of Creative Writing, reads from *Universal Love*, his brand-new collection of speculative fiction about compassion, love, and human resilience in a near-future world of advanced technology. Signing. 7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585-5567.

★Washtenaw Reads Book Discussion: Ann Arbor District Library. All invited to discuss *Dear America: Notes of an Undocumented*

Citizen

Pulitzer-winning journalist Jose Antonio Vargas’s memoir about his life as an undocumented immigrant. 7–8 p.m., AADL Pittsfield, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. Free. 327-4200.

★Mary Bajcz: Ann Arbor Women Artists. This Michigan quilter and fiber artist discusses her work. 7 p.m., AAAC Headquarters, 4844 Jackson, ste. 100. Free. AnnArborWomenArtists@gmail.com

★Polka Jam Session. All accordion players and other musicians invited to play polkas and waltzes and other ethnic and old-time music. 7–9 p.m., American Legion Hall, 44 Wabash St., Milan. Free. 529-3903.

The Moth StorySLAM: Michigan Radio. See 7 Tuesday. Tonight’s theme: “Beauty.” 7:30 p.m.

★“Remaking Our Neighborhoods, with Climate in Mind”: Huron Valley Sierra Club. Presentation by Matt Grocoff, whose Ann Arbor house is considered the oldest home in North America with a net-zero carbon status. 7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free, metered parking. HVG@Michigan.SierraClub.org

★Shades of Blue: EMU Music. This popular jazz band, an ensemble of 15 professional musicians from the U.S. Air Force Band of Mid-America, performs a program of rousing contemporary and classic music TBA. 7:30–9 p.m., EMU Pease Auditorium, 494 College Pl., Ypsilanti. Free. 487-6842.

22 WEDNESDAY

“Roadsigns”: Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 16 Thursday. 3 p.m.

★“The Condemnation of Blackness: Race, Crime, and Modern Urban America”: U-M Donia Human Rights Center Annual MLK Lecture. Harvard Kennedy School history, race, and public policy professor Khalil Gibran Muhammad discusses the role the urban North has played in shaping ideas about race and crime. 4–5:30 p.m., 1010 Weiser Hall, 500 Church. Free. 615-8482.

★Hopwood Awards Ceremony: U-M English Department. Presentation of these writing awards to U-M students. Also, a reading by Philadelphia poet laureate Raquel Salas Rivera, a Puerto Rican who writes in Spanish and English about gender, queer identity, immigration, and assimilation, and uses poems featuring untranslated Spanish words and phrases to explore the inseparability of experience from language. On Jan. 21, a Q&A with Salas Rivera (3–4 p.m., 1176 Angell Hall). 5:30–7:30 p.m., Rackham Amphitheatre. Free. 764-6330.

★“DNA, Chromosome Structure, and Health”: U-M Museum of Natural History Science Café. U-M molecular, cellular, & developmental biology professor Gyorgyi Csankovszki discusses current research into basic cellular biology and its implications for human health. Followed by discussion. Preceded at 5:30 p.m. by hors d’oeuvres. Seating limited; arrive early. 6–7:30 p.m., Conor O’Neill’s, 318 S. Main. Free. 764-0477.

“The 2020 Democratic Nomination: Who Gets to Choose, the Parties or the Voters?”: OLLI After 5 (U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute). Talk by EMU political science professor Jeffrey Bernstein. 6–7:30 p.m., Kellogg Eye Center auditorium, 1000 Wall St. \$5. 998-9351.

★“Strategies for Overcoming Climate Eco-Anxiety”: Ann Arbor District Library. Local psychotherapist & anthropologist Jennifer Bowles discusses strategies for both assuaging eco-anxiety and mobilizing change. 7–8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown multipurpose rm., 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4200.

★“Tidying Up”: Ann Arbor District Library. Simply Tidy owner Kate Sood discusses the benefits of decluttering. Sood is Michigan’s only consultant certified in KonMari—a Japanese organizational system created by Marie Kondo. 7–8:30 p.m., AADL Pittsfield, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. Free. 327-4200.

★“An Evening of Poetry and Written Word”: Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room. Reading by renowned Arab American poet Khaled Mattawa, a U-M creative writing professor whose latest collection, *Mare Nostrum*, conjures a pointed, incantatory account of the refugee experience in the Mediterranean. Followed by a poetry and short fiction open mike. 7–8:45 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665-2757.

★History of Science Reading Group: Motte & Bailey Booksellers. All invited to discuss Gino Segre & Bettina Hoerlin’s 2016 book *The Pope of Physics: Enrico Fermi and the Birth of the Atomic Age*. 7:30–9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669-0451.

“Comedy Jamm”: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 8 Wednesday. 7:30 p.m.

“The Believers Are But Brothers”: University Musical Society. Jan. 22–25. Kirsty Housley directs Javaad Alipoor in his play, based on real life, about men, politics, and the Internet. It follows the journeys to radicalization of 3 disaffected men

films

Ann Arbor District Library Downtown. FREE. 327-4200. Multipurpose rm. (except as noted).

Jan. 6: "Documented" (Jose Vargas, 2013). Documentary about Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Vargas' journey as an undocumented immigrant in the US and his crusade for immigration reform. 7 p.m.

Jan. 15: "Salud sin Papeles: Health Undocumented" (Juan Freitez, 2017). Internationally acclaimed documentary about Phoenix Allies for Community Health, a free clinic serving undocumented immigrants. Followed by a panel discussion with director Freitez, Washtenaw Health Plan outreach worker Spring Quiñones, & U-M health behavior and education professor Paul Fleming. 6 p.m.

Jan. 26: "Happening: A Clean Energy Revolution" (James Redford, 2017). Documentary about recent innovation in clean energy technology. Followed by a talk by Ann Arbor sustainability staff about the city's carbon neutrality initiative and a talk by Citizens' Climate Lobby members about federal carbon pricing legislation. AADL Westgate. 3 p.m.

Fathom Events. 623-7469 (Quality 16), 973-8424 (Ann Arbor 20), 316-5500 (Emagine). Tickets \$14-\$16.25 (except as noted) in advance at FathomEvents.com/Events and at the door. Quality 16 (3686 Jackson), Ann Arbor 20 (4100 Carpenter), Emagine (1335 E. Michigan Ave., Saline), & Michigan Theater (603 E. Liberty), different times.

Jan. 5: "Doctor Who Live." Series 12 premiere episode of this long-running BBC sci-fi show. Followed by a live broadcast of a Q&A with the current and 13th Doctor, Jodie Whittaker & others. Note: Quality 16, Michigan, & Ann Arbor 20 only. 2 p.m.

Jan. 7: "Mystify: Michael Hutchence" (Richard Lowenstein, 2019). Documentary about the troubled life of the Australian rock band INXS frontman. Note: Quality 16, Emagine, & Ann Arbor 20 only. 7 p.m.

Jan. 11 & 15: "Wozzeck." Live broadcast (Jan. 11) & rebroadcast (Jan. 15) of the **Metropolitan Opera** production of Alban Berg's 1925 opera based on German playwright Georg Büchner's unfinished episodic tragedy about a poverty-stricken barber driven insane by the apparently irremediable injustice of the world. With baritone Peter Mattei and soprano Elza van den Heever. German, supertitles. Tickets \$20-\$25. 12:55 p.m. (Sat., Quality 16, Michigan, & Emagine only) and 1 & 6:30 p.m. (Wed., Quality 16 & Ann Arbor 20 only).

Jan. 15 & 16: "Weathering With You" (Makoto Shinkai, 2020). Dubbed (Jan. 15) & subtitled (Jan. 16) animated romantic fantasy about a young city boy who befriends a girl who appears to be able to manipulate the weather. Note: 7 p.m. (Wed., Quality 16, Emagine, & Ann Arbor 20 only; Thurs. Ann Arbor 20 only) & 8 p.m. (Wed., Ann Arbor 20 only; Thurs. Quality 16 & Michigan only).

Jan. 19 & 22: "An American In Paris" (Vincente Minnelli, 1951). Oscar-winning Gershwin musical about a GI in postwar Paris. Gene Kelly, Leslie Caron. Note: 1 & 4 p.m. (Sun., Ann Arbor 20 only) & 7 p.m. (Wed., Michigan & Ann Arbor 20 only).

Jan. 23: "Blind Eyes Opened" (Ken Cooper, 2020). Christian documentary about the US sex trafficking industry, highlighted by survivors' stories. Note: Quality 16 & Ann Arbor 20 only. 7 p.m.

Jan. 26: "Giselle." Live broadcast of the **Bolshoi Ballet** production of Adolphe Adam's classic 1841 ballet, with choreography by Alexei Ratmansky. When a gentle peasant girl dies of a broken heart after her aristocratic lover betrays her, she returns as a vengeful spirit bent on making

unfaithful men dance until death. Note: Tickets \$17. Quality 16, Emagine, & Ann Arbor 20 only. 12:55 p.m.

Jewel Heart Buddhist Center. FREE. 994-3387. Jewel Heart, 1129 Oak Valley Dr. 7 p.m.

Jan. 31: "Samadhi" (Daniel Schmidt, 2017). Documentary exploring the state of meditative consciousness associated with the root of all spiritual and self-inquiry.

Michigan Theater Foundation. Unless there is a live show in the main theater, 2 or 3 different films are shown, usually 2-3 times a day. Occasional MTF screenings are listed under *Fathom Events*. For complete, updated schedules, see MichTheater.org, AnnArborObserver.com, or call 668-TIME. Tickets (unless otherwise noted): \$10.50 (children under 12, students with ID, seniors age 65 & older, & US veterans, \$8.50; MTF members, \$8; weekdays before 6 p.m., \$7) in advance at MichTheater.org and at the door. Times (unless otherwise noted) TBA.

Jan. 6: "Bohemian Rhapsody: The Sing-Along" (Bryan Singer, 2018). Biopic about Queen lead singer Freddie Mercury. On-screen lyrics. 7:30 p.m.

Jan. 7: "Fleabag" (Vicky Jones, 2013). Rebroadcast of the National Theatre (London) production of Phoebe Waller-Bridge's 2013 one-woman show known for its vicious, clever humor that inspired the popular BBC comedy of the same name. It's about a complicated nameless woman navigating London life in the aftermath of tragedy. 7 p.m.

Jan. 8: "Murder on the Orient Express" (Sidney Lumet, 1974). Classic Poirot murder mystery. Albert Finney, Maggie Smith. 7:30 p.m.

Jan. 9: "Rashomon" (Akira Kurosawa, 1950). Oscar-winning period film that uses flashbacks to tell several conflicting versions of the story of a man's murder and the rape of his wife. Japanese, subtitles. Sponsored by the U-M Center for Japanese Studies. 7:30 p.m.

Jan. 10: "Cunningham" (Alla Kovgan, 2019). 3-D documentary, drawing on archival footage and live re-creations, about renowned choreographer Merce Cunningham.

Jan. 10: "The Princess Bride" (Rob Reiner, 1987). Sweet, witty, tongue-in-cheek fairy tale about a farm girl kidnapped by a villainous ruler who intends to make her his princess. Mandy Patinkin, Cary Elwes, Robin Wright, Christopher Guest, André the Giant, Wallace Shawn. 9:30 p.m.

Jan. 12: "Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory" (Mel Stuart, 1971). Delightfully unsettling musical fantasy based on the Roald Dahl book about a boy who visits a candy factory. Gene Wilder. Age 12 & under, free. 1:30 p.m.

Jan. 13: "The Greatest Showman: The Sing-Along" (Michael Gracey, 2018). Musical biopic about showman P.T. Barnum. Hugh Jackman, Zac Efron, Michelle Williams. On-screen lyrics. 7:30 p.m.

Jan. 14: "The Bit Player" (Mark Levinson, 2019). Documentary about mathematician Claude Shannon, who's best known for laying the foundation for the information age by introducing the notion of a "bit." 7:30 p.m.

Jan. 15: "Clue" (Jonathan Lynn, 1985). Comedy whodunit based on the murder mystery game, with the familiar characters suspiciously eyeing each other in a Victorian mansion. 7:30 p.m.

Opens Jan. 17: "63 Up" (Michael Apted, 2019)

Jan. 17: "Shrek" (Andrew Adamson & Vicky Jenson, 2001). Popular animated movie that features a whimsical Beauty-and-the-Beast-style tale about a genial green ogre who falls for a canny princess. With subtitles to encourage the audience to talk along. 8:30 p.m.

Jan. 18: "Extreme Job" (Lee Byeong-heon, 2019). Free. 1 p.m.

Jan. 19: "All My Sons" (Jeremy Herrin, 2019). Live broadcast of the National Theatre (London) production of Arthur Miller's 1947 play, a dramatic indictment of American big business told through the story of a family torn apart by lies and fraud. Jeremy Herrin directs this salient reminder of the ways everyday demands can lead people to compromise their moral integrity. Sally Field, Bill Pullman. Note: Tickets \$22. 7 p.m.

Jan. 23: "Ugetsu" (Kenji Mizoguchi, 1954). 7:30 p.m.

Opens Jan. 24: "Song of Names" (François Girard, 2019).

Jan. 24: "Purple Rain" (Albert Magnoli & Prince, 1984). Musical about an aspiring young Minneapolis musician with a troubled home life and a new girlfriend. Prince, Apollonia Kotero, Morris Day. 9:30 p.m.

Jan. 25: "A Resistance" (Cho Min Ho, 2019) 1 p.m. FREE.

Jan. 26: "The Little Mermaid: The Sing-Along" (Ron Clements & John Musker, 1989). Animated Disney classic adapted from the Hans Christian Andersen fairy tale. On-screen lyrics. 3 p.m.

Jan. 26: "The Found Footage Festival" (Various directors).

Jan. 29: "Gosford Park" (Robert Altman, 2001). Murder mystery about a shooting party gone awry, in an English manor house whose gulf between family and servants is acidly portrayed. Kelly Macdonald, Clive Owen, Ryan Phillippe. 7:30 p.m.

Jan. 31: "Rocky Horror Picture Show" (Jim Sharman, 2019). 10 p.m.

Opens Jan. 31: "2020 Oscar Shorts" (Various directors). Screening of short animation, documentary, & live action films nominated for an Academy Award.

State Theatre. For complete, updated schedules, see StateTheatreA2.org, AnnArborObserver.com, or call 668-TIME. Tickets (unless otherwise noted): \$10.50 (children under 12, students with ID, seniors age 65 & older, & US veterans, \$8.50; MTF members, \$8; weekdays before 6 p.m., \$7). Times (unless otherwise noted): TBA.

Opens Jan. 10: "1917" (Sam Mendes, 2019).

Opens Jan. 24: "Les Misérables" (Ladj Ly, 2020). Premiere of this drama, inspired by the 2005 Parisian riots, about an anti-crime squad overwhelmed by simmering neighborhood tension & violence. French, subtitles.

Opens Jan. 31: "Clemency" (Chinonye Chukwu, 2019).

U-M Armenian Studies Program. FREE. 763-0622. 555 Weiser Hall, 500 Church.

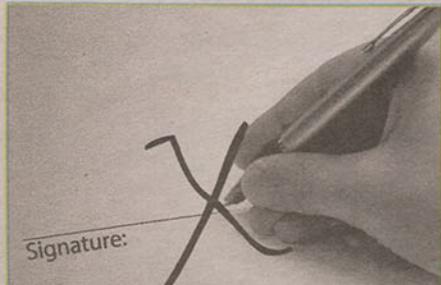
Jan. 14: "Vahé Oshagan: Between Acts" (Hrayr Eulmesseki, 2016). Experimental documentary about the prolific Armenian poet, artist, & public intellectual. Armenian, subtitles. Followed by director talk. 6 p.m.

U-M Center for World Performance Studies. FREE. 936-2777. East Quad Keene Theater, 701 East University.

Jan. 16: "Gone to the Village" (Kwasi Ampene, 2019). U-M ethnomusicology professor Ampene narrates this documentary about the elaborate 2016 funeral for the 11-year-old Queen Mother of the Asante Kingdom (Ghana). Followed by director Q&A. 7 p.m.

U-M Germanic Languages & Literatures. FREE. 764-8018. 2435 North Quad.

Jan. 13: "Transit" (Christian Petzold, 2018). Film adaptation of Anna Segher's 1942 novel about a concentration camp survivor seeking passage to the US German, subtitles. 7 p.m.



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24 FRIDAY

"As Far As My Fingertips Take Me": U-M Institute for the Humanities (University Musical Society). Jan. 24-Feb. 2, except Jan. 27. Lebanese artist Tania El Khoury curates this 10-minute interactive performance art piece in which each ticketholder has a one-on-one tactile interaction with street artist and Palestinian refugee Basel Zaraa. Equipped with a headset playing a prerecorded audio piece, participants stretch their arm through a hole in a wall while listening to Zaraa recount his family's history of dispersion and endless search for home. On the other side of the wall, Zaraa takes a black marker to the participant's fingertips, palm, and forearm, redrawing his and other refugees' journey. The aim is to break through the punditry of the 24-hour news cycle and its attendant apathy in order to awaken empathy through touch. 4-9 p.m. (Jan. 24 & 28-31) & noon-5 p.m. (Feb. 1 & 2), Jan 25 & 26 times TBA; every 15 minutes on the quarter. U-M Institute for the Humanities, 202 S. Thayer. Tickets \$25-\$30 in advance at tickets.UMS.org. 764-2538.

"Our AI Lets Humans Take Control: Popular Music and Collaborative Artificial Intelligence": U-M School of Music. U-M musicology professor Charles Garrett discusses the role of artificial intelligence in commercial music production, including pop singer-songwriter Taryn Southern's 2018 album *I AM AI*, billed as the first pop album produced by AI. 5 p.m., U-M Moore Bldg. Watkins Lecture Hall, 1100 Baits. Free. 615-3204.

Open House Dates

Friday, January 10th
10:30-11:30am

Wednesday, January 15th
6:00-7:00pm



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23 THURSDAY

★Rion Amilcar Scott: U-M English Department Zell Visiting Writers Series. Reading by this author of 2 short story collections, *Insurrections* and the recent *The World Doesn't Require You*, both set in a fictional American town founded by the leaders of the nation's only successful slave uprising. Featuring elements of magical realism and a good deal of humor, these stories blend genres to explore religion, violence, and love. Preceded at 3 p.m. by a Q&A. 5:30 p.m., UMMA Auditorium, 525 S. State (Q&A, 1176 Angell Hall, 435 S. State). Free. 764-6330.

★"3-D Lab: Design & Printing": Ann Arbor District Library. All invited to learn the basic functions of parametric CAD—i.e., solid-modeling computer-aided-design—and design an object to 3-D print. 6:30-8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4200.

★"Smell & Tell: Sacred Scents Across Abrahamic Traditions": Ann Arbor District Library. Local flavor and fragrance expert Michelle Krell Kydd,

creator of the award-winning flavor and fragrance blog Glass Petal Smoke, discusses, with smell samples, sacred scents common to Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. 6:30-8:45 p.m., AADL Downtown multipurpose rm., 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4200.

★"Telling the Truth About the Liberal Arts: Histories and Futures": U-M Bentley Historical Library. Talk by Bentley director Terrence J. McDonald. 7 p.m., Ford Presidential Library, 1000 Beal Ave. Free. 764-3639.

★Luke Geddes: Literati Bookstore. This Ohio fiction writer reads from *Heart of Junk*, his forthcoming novel about an eclectic group of Kansas antique merchants who become implicated in the kidnapping of a local toddler who's a beauty pageant star. Signing. 7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585-5567.

"The Believers Are But Brothers": University Musical Society. See 22 Wednesday. 7:30 p.m.

Brad Wenzel: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. Jan. 23-25. L.A.-based comic whose stage persona is a relatable guy who occasionally abruptly detours into surrealism. Preceded by 2 opening acts TBA. Alcohol is served. 7:30 p.m. (Thurs.-Sat.) & 10 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 212 S. Fourth Ave. \$9 (Thurs.) & \$12 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance at etix.com before 6 p.m. the night of the show; \$11 (Thurs.) & \$14 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996-9080.

"Roadsigns": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 16 Thursday. 8 p.m.

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SMALL GROUP TOUR
Tuesday, Jan. 14
starting at 9am

K-1 INFO MEETING
Friday, Jan. 17
starting at 10am

SMALL GROUP TOUR
Tuesday, Feb. 11
starting at 9am

To register for one of our events or to arrange an individual tour email admissions@emerson-school.org or call Lisa P. at 734.665.5662 ext. 303.

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info@summers-knoll.org

www.summers-knoll.org
2203 Platt Road
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

kids calendar

AADL: Ann Arbor District Library 327-4200. Events (all free) offered at **Downtown** (343 S. Fifth Ave.), **Westgate** (Westgate shopping center), **Traverwood** (3333 Traverwood), **Malletts Creek** (3090 E. Eisenhower), and **Pittsfield** (2359 Oak Valley) branches.

AAHOM: Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum, 220 E. Ann. 995-9439. All events free (except as noted) with regular admission: \$12.50 (members & kids under age 2, free).

HSHV: Humane Society of Huron Valley, 3100 Cherry Hill Rd. Events also hosted at **Tiny Lions Lounge & Adoption Center** (5245 Jackson, ste. A1). hshv.org, 661-3575.

LSNC: Leslie Science & Nature Center, 1831 Traver. \$5 per kid (members, \$4); adults & kids under 12 months, free. 997-1553.

Nicola's: Nicola's Books, Westgate shopping center. All events free. 662-0600.

WCPARC: Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission, County Farm Park, 2230 Platt (unless otherwise noted). All events free. Preregistration required at ParksOnline.eWashtenaw.org. 971-6337.

Zingerman's: Zingerman's Deli Upstairs Next Door, 418 Detroit St. \$15 per kid includes tastings; parents welcome to lurk for free. 663-3354.

Through Jan. 5: "Hands-On Holidays": **AAHOM**. Family-friendly hands-on activities and demonstrations about biology and the human body. With live entertainment each day, including music, storytelling, and theater from local performers.

Every Mon.-Fri., except Jan. 1: **Preschool Storytimes:** **AADL**. Half-hour program of stories and songs for ages 2-5 (with caregiver). Siblings welcome. Mon. 11 a.m. (**Westgate & Malletts Creek**); Tues. 10 a.m. (**Downtown**); Wed. 10 a.m. (**Malletts Creek**), 11 a.m. (**Downtown**), 1 & 6 p.m. (**Westgate**); Thurs. 7 p.m. (**Pittsfield**); Fri. 10 a.m. (**Westgate & Pittsfield**).

Every Mon.-Fri., except Jan. 1: **Baby Playgroups:** **AADL**. Hour-long program, including 15 minutes of stories, rhymes, and songs followed by open play, for ages 24 months & under (with caregiver). No older siblings, please. Mon. 10:30 a.m. (**Downtown**); Tues. 10 a.m. (**Malletts Creek**); Wed. 11 a.m. (**Pittsfield**); Thurs. 2 p.m. (**Westgate**), & 6:30 p.m. (**Malletts Creek**).

Every Thurs. (10:30 a.m.): "Little Paws Story Time": **HSHV**. Stories, crafts, finger plays, a tour of the adoptable cat area, and a dog meet and greet. For ages 2-5 (with caregiver). \$5 per child (11 months & under, free).

Jan. 2 (2-3 p.m.): "Spy Academy!": **AADL Pittsfield**. Grades K-5 invited to learn techniques & strategies sneakily employed by spies, such as mastering disguises and writing in code.

Jan. 3 (2-2:30 p.m.): "Puppet Show!": **AADL Downtown Multipurpose Rm.** AADL storytellers present a puppet show for grades preK-3.

Jan. 4 (10-11 a.m.): "Sensory-Friendly Storytime": **AADL Westgate**. Ages 3-7 invited to a 20-minute program of interactive stories, rhymes, & movement, followed by free play.

Every Tues. (9:30 a.m.) & Sat. (10:30 a.m.): "The Little Scientist Club": **AAHOM**. Crafts, science-themed stories, and hands-on activities for young kids, accompanied by a parent. Geared toward ages 3-6 (older siblings welcome).

Jan. 4 & 5 (1 & 3 p.m.): "Professor Ray's Everyday Science: HOH HOH H2O!": **AAHOM**. Demonstrations and activities that explore the properties of water.

★Night Hike: Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission. WCPARC naturalists lead a hike in the dark. Followed by a bonfire and hot cocoa. Dress for the weather. 6-8:30 p.m., **Independence Lake County Park**, 3200 Jennings. Free, preregistration required at ParksOnline.eWashtenaw.org. \$6 vehicle entry fee. 449-4437, ext. 203.

★Matthew Thorburn & Mary Biddinger: Literati Bookstore. New Jersey poet Thorburn reads from *The Grace of Distance*, his 2019 collection about the distances we experience between ourselves and those we love, how we bridge them, and how we accept them. Ohio-based poet Biddinger reads prose poems from *Partial Genius*, her recent collection which explores our society's tendency toward self-destruction. Signing. 7 p.m., **Literati**, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585-5567.

★"Artificial Intelligence & Finance": Ann Arbor District Library. U-M computer science & engineering professor Michael Wellman discusses the risks & benefits associated with the increasing role AI is playing in finance. 7-8:30 p.m., **AADL Downtown multipurpose rm.**, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4200.

★"Falsettos": U-M Basement Arts. Jan. 24 & 25. Julianna Garber and Sydney Prince direct U-M

students in James Lapine and William Finn's 1992 Tony-winning musical, a mixture of comedy and pathos exploring changes brought about by the arrival of AIDS. The play is a meld of 2 earlier works: *March of the Falsettos*, a 1981 farce about a merry-go-round of relationships begun when a man leaves his wife and son for a male lover, and *Falsettoland*, a 1991 play about the lives of the same group of characters when one of the men is diagnosed with AIDS. 7 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.) & 11 p.m. (Fri.), **U-M Walgreen Drama Center Newman Studio**, 1226 Murfin. Free. facebook.com/BasementArts

Brad Wenzel: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 23 Thursday. 7:30 & 10 p.m.

"Wine, Women, and Song: A Funny Thing Happened On the Way ...": Kerrystown Concert House. Jan. 24-26, 31 & Feb. 1. Monica Swartout-Bebow directs local woman singers in an elegant evening of jazz, classical, and cabaret songs. With pianist Tyler Driskill. Singers include Laurie Atwood, Linda Beaupré, Sue Booth, Carolyn Burnstein, Roxy Diederich, Shelley MacMillan, Gayle Martin, January Provenzola, Deanna Relyea, Emily Rogers-Driskill, Susan Shipman, Lisa

(age 12 & under)

Chinese-themed craft. For babies & preschoolers (siblings welcome). AADL Pittsfield (Jan. 11) & AADL Downtown Youth Story Corner (Jan. 25).

Jan. 11 (11:15 a.m.-noon): "Storytime at the Museum": UMMA. A U-M student docent reads a story related to art on display. Followed by a short craft activity. This month's theme: Korea. For ages 3-6 (with caregiver), siblings welcome.

Jan. 11 (2-3 p.m.): "Crafting": AADL. Grades preK-2 invited to make a paper baby dinosaur in an egg.

Jan. 12 (10:30 a.m.-noon): "Junior Naturalist: Birds of Winter": WCPARC. Nature program for ages 7-12. County Farm Park, 2230 Platt. Preregistration required at ParksOnline.eWashtenaw.org.

Jan. 12 & 25 (various times): "Dancing Babies": AADL. Ages 5 & under (with caregiver) invited to a 45-minute program of music and movement led by Robinsongs for Kids director Robin Robinson (Jan. 12, 1 p.m. AADL Westgate) and Kindermusik dance teacher Denise Owens (Jan. 25, 10 a.m. AADL Pittsfield).

Jan. 12 (2-3:30 p.m.): "Drop-in Minecraft": AADL Downtown Training Center. Grades 3-8 invited to stop by to play this popular computer game. New & experienced players welcome.

Jan. 13 (5:30-6:30 p.m.): "Just for Kids: Explore the World of Pot Pies": Zingerman's Delicatessen. Zingerman's Deli chef Rodger Bowser and tasting expert Jenny Hall discuss how to conduct tastings. Geared towards ages 4-14.

Jan. 16 (4:30-6 p.m.): "Coding Playground": AADL Downtown Training Center. Grades 3-8 invited to build apps using BitsBox, or work on their own project in their preferred coding language. No experience required.

Jan. 17 (10:30-11 a.m.): "Just for Younger Kids Storytime Tasting: Chicken Soup and Rice!": Zingerman's Delicatessen. Zingerman's staffers read Maurice Sendak's *Chicken Soup with Rice*, and discuss how to conduct tastings. Geared towards ages 2-5.

Jan. 18 (11 a.m.): Special Storytime: Nicola's. Author Leslie Helakoski and illustrator Heidi Woodward Sheffield read from their brand-new picture book, *Are Your Stars Like My Stars?* Signing.

Jan. 19 (10 a.m.-4 p.m.): "Pop-Up Makerspace": AAHOM. Hands-on engineering activity. This month's challenge: "Lego Engineering!"

Jan. 19 (noon-1 p.m.): "Hedgehog Day Craft": AADL Westgate. Grades preK-3 invited to make pinecone hedgehogs.

Jan. 19 (2-4 p.m.): Family Dance: Pittsfield Union Grange. Drake Meadow calls contras and square dances to live music by Donna Baird & Dawn Swartz. Followed by Grange-baked cookies and cocoa. Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. \$12 per family (members, free). 769-1052.

Jan. 19 (3-4 p.m.): "Korean Storytime": AADL Westgate. Korean-language songs, stories, and crafts. For babies & preschoolers (siblings welcome).

Jan. 19 (3-4 p.m.): Spanish Storytime": AADL Downtown Youth Story Corner. Local writer & teacher Consuelo Digón tells stories and sings songs in Spanish. For babies & preschoolers (siblings welcome).

Jan. 20 (9:30-11 a.m.): "Diversity Day": Jewish Family Services of Washtenaw County. Grades 1-5 invited to participate in hands-on activities TBA to celebrate MLK Jr. Day. Also, a performance TBA. Light refreshments. Jewish Community Center, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. Free. 769-0209.

Jan. 20 (2-3 p.m.): "Kinetic Sandbox": AADL Downtown Secret Lab. Grades K-5 invited to build and play with easy-to-mold Kinetic Sand.

Jan. 20 (8:30 a.m.-3 p.m.): "Annual Children & Youth Program": U-M MLK Symposium. Kids in grades K-12 invited for a day of stories, discussions, skits, musical performances, and activities centered on Martin Luther King Jr. Kids age 4 & under welcome if accompanied by an adult. MLB, 812 E. Washington. Free. Preregistration available at oami.umich.edu/um-MLK-symposium/events. 323-4237.

Jan. 22-25 (Wed.-Fri. 10 a.m.; Sat. 11 a.m.): "Frog and Toad": Wild Swan Theater. This award-winning local children's theater presents its adaptation of Arnold Lobel's humorous, compassionate stories about these animal friends. Frog and Toad celebrate life's joys together as they greet spring, share cookies, and plant a garden, showing how good friends help each other through thick and thin. As with all Wild Swan productions, the performance is interpreted in American Sign Language. Audio description and backstage "touch" tours are available by prearrangement for blind audience members. Geared towards grades preK-2. WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Tickets \$12 (seniors age 60 & over and youth, \$10; lap passes available for ages 1 & under; \$3) in advance at WildSwanTheater.ThunderTix.com and (if available) at the door. 995-0530.

Jan. 23 (10-11 a.m.): "Preschool Hike: Hello, Red Fox!": WCPARC. Naturalist Shawn Severance leads ages 2-4 (with caregiver) on a hike to look for red animals and objects in nature.

Jan. 25 (10-11 a.m.): "Animal Signs": Hudson Mills Metropark Interpretive Nature Programs. Hudson Mills naturalist Kim Sherwin leads ages 3-6 in a search for homes, tracks, & other signs of animals.

Jan. 25 (10 a.m.-4 p.m.) & 26 (noon-4 p.m.): "ScienceFest Weekend: Science Is for Everyone": AAHOM. Accessible experiments and hands-on activities, with a focus on science pioneered by scientists of diverse backgrounds.

Jan. 25 (11 a.m.-noon): "Arabic Storytime": AADL Malletts Creek. Local Arabic teacher and storyteller Heba Abdelaal tells stories and sings songs in Arabic. For babies & preschoolers (siblings welcome).

Jan. 25 (11 a.m. & 2 p.m.): "Family Art Studio: Imaginary Places": UMMA. Local artist Susan Clinthorne leads a session of abstract painting inspired by Helen Frankenthaler, Joan Mitchell, and paintings on display in UMMA's Collection Ensemble. For kids age 6 & up, accompanied by an adult. Preregistration required at UMMA.umich.edu/events.

Jan. 25 (noon-3 p.m.): "Snow Much Fun!": WCPARC. Family-friendly festival with crafts, a petting zoo, face painting, treats, a sledding hill, and ice bowling. Noon-3 p.m., Rolling Hills County Park, 7660 Stony Creek Rd., Ypsilanti. \$5 per person (free vehicle entry). 484-9676, ext. 202.

Jan. 26 (2 p.m.): "PJ Masks Save the Day Live!": EMU Convocation Center. A touring theater company TBA performs a lavishly staged production of Round Room Live's family-friendly musical adaptation of PJ Masks, the popular Disney Junior animated TV series about 3 young friends who are able to activate their superanimal alter-egos nightly by putting on their pajamas. Along the way they solve mysteries and learn valuable lessons. Geared for ages 2-6. 799 N. Hewitt, Ypsilanti. \$29.50-\$59.50 in advance at EMUtx.com and at the door; an additional \$50 to meet the cast. 487-2822.

Jan. 26 (2-3 p.m.): "Nature Explorers: Dens, Roosts, and Nests": WCPARC. Naturalist Shawn Severance leads ages 5 & 6 (with caregiver) on a hike to learn about animals' winter homes and winter survival strategies. Followed by a campfire with s'mores.

Tucker-Gray, and Kathy Waugh. Wine is served. This popular event usually sells out. 8 p.m. (except Jan. 26, 4 p.m.), KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Tickets \$25-\$75 (students, \$15) in advance at a2tix.com. 769-2999.

★Loadbang: U-M School of Music. This NYC-based new-music chamber quartet performs a repertoire of original and commissioned works composed especially for its distinctive instrumentation. Members are baritone Jeffrey Gavett, trumpeter Andy Kozar, trombonist William Lang, and bass clarinetist Adrián Sandi. 8 p.m., U-M Moore Bldg. McIntosh Theatre, 1100 Baits. Free. 615-3204.

★Angell Hall Observatory Open House: U-M Student Astronomical Society. All invited to peer through the observatory and rooftop telescopes and to view planetarium shows. Also, short astronomy presentations by club members. 8-10 p.m., 5th floor rooftop observatory, Angell Hall (enter through Haven Hall on the Diag side of the building). Free. 764-3440.

"The Believers Are But Brothers": University Musical Society. See 22 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

"Roadsigns": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 16 Thurs. 8 p.m.

25 SATURDAY

★"Great Lakes Days": U-M Museum of Natural History. Jan. 25 & 26. Various Michigan water-related activities featuring a stream-table demo (showing water flow through different mediums), a talk by St. Clair-Detroit River Sturgeon for Tomorrow representative Jeremy Gue (topic TBA), and a reading by Deb Pilutti from her children's book, *Old Rock (is not boring)*. For complete schedule, visit bit.ly/greatlakedays. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. U-M MNH, 1109 Geddes. Free. 764-0478.

★"A Habitat Ramble": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission. WCPARC naturalists lead a hike to practice tree identification and look for animal signs. Dress for the weather. 10 a.m.-noon, Leonard Preserve, the end of Union St. north off Main west of M-52, Manchester. Free, preregistration required at ParksOnline.eWashtenaw.org. \$6 vehicle entry fee. 449-4437, ext. 203.



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email: school@stfrancisaa.org • www.stfrancisa2.com/school

26 SUNDAY

★“Amigurumi Cocoa Mug”: Ann Arbor District Library. Local crafter Drew Hill demonstrates how to crochet an amigurumi mug of cocoa. Amigurumi is a Japanese art of crocheting small stuffed toys. Previous crochet experience recommended. 1-4 p.m., AADL Pittsfield, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. Free. 327-4200.

★“Family Tree Software Choices”: Genealogical Society of Washtenaw County. A discussion led by club member Nancy Howard. Followed by a talk led by club member Rodger Wolf on best practices for the genealogy software Family Tree Maker. 1:30 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Women’s Health Center rm. IAB, 5305 Elliott. Free. 483-2799.

★“Wave Oscillator”: Ann Arbor District Library. All invited to assemble, solder, and take home this small device that produces sounds electronically—an essential part of any synthesizer. 2-5 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4200.

★“Ann Arbor Storytellers Guild”: All invited to listen to guild members swap stories or bring their own to tell. 2-4 p.m., Ann Arbor District Library 3rd fl. freespace, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. AnnArborStorytelling.org

★“Stories and Images from the Last Frontier”: Ann Arbor District Library. Photographer Howard Smith discusses the process for capturing the photos displayed in *Images of Alaska* (see Galleries, p. 57). 2-3:30 p.m., AADL Downtown multipurpose rm., 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4200.

“Roadsigns”: Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 16 Thursday. 3 p.m. & 8 p.m.

“As Far As My Fingertips Take Me”: U-M Institute for the Humanities (University Musical Society). See 24 Friday. 4-9 p.m.

★“The Hope of Abstraction and the Possibilities of the Public Square”: UMMA. Conversation between NYC-based multimedia artist Cullen Washington and UMMA curator Vera Grant. Grant curates the current exhibit of Washington’s abstract multimedia installations, which explore the artistic, spiritual, and political importance of public space. Refreshments. On Jan. 25 (2-3 p.m.), a docent-led tour of the exhibit meets in the UMMA forum. 4-5:30 p.m., UMMA Taubman Gallery 1, 525 S. State. Free. 764-0395.

“Lift Off: Rebirth”: A2 Aviary. Aerial, dance, and circus acts by A2 Aviary students and instructors. Also enjoy a slice of cake, if you like. Limited seating; arrive early. 7 p.m. sharp, A2 Aviary, 2875 Boardwalk, ste. A. Tickets \$10 in advance at BrownPaperTickets.com and \$15 (cash only) at the door. A2aviary.com

★“Falsettos”: U-M Basement Arts. See 24 Friday. 7 p.m.

“Đêm Việt Nam”: U-M Vietnamese Student Association Cultural Night. U-M students perform traditional and modern Vietnamese dance, music, and theater. Proceeds benefit Messengers of Love, which serves poor & orphaned Vietnamese children. 7 p.m., Power Center. Tickets \$8 in advance at the Posting Wall in Mason Hall, Jan. 13-17 & 20-24 only (10 a.m.-4 p.m.), and at the door. umichVSAboard@umich.edu

U-M Ice Hockey vs. U.S. National Development Team. Exhibition game against a team of players age 17 & under from the Plymouth-based U.S. National Development Team. This month’s schedule also includes a regular-season series vs. OSU (Jan. 31 & Feb. 1, 7:30 p.m.). 7:30 p.m., Yost Ice Arena, 1016 S. State. Tickets TBA at mGOblue.com/tickets. 764-0247.

Blacksmith Shop Concerts: Riverfolk Music and Arts Organization. Acoustic performance by Abigail Stauffer, a local singer-songwriter with a rich, resonant alto voice who’s known for her piercing, emotionally direct pop-folk and pop-rock songs. She’s accompanied by Dave the Cellist, a stage name of jazz cellist Dave Haughey. 7:30 p.m., Blacksmith Shop, 324 E. Main, Manchester. \$18. 223-6876.

Brad Wenzel: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 23 Thursday. 7:30 & 10 p.m.

Minnesota Orchestra: University Musical Society. Internationally renowned music director Osmo Vänskä directs his symphony in a program of compelling interpretations of music by iconic Finnish composer Jean Sibelius, including his choral melodrama *Snöfrid* (with the UMS Choral Union & narrator Sassa Åkervall), Violin Concerto in D Minor (with Finnish-American violinist Elina Vähälä), and Symphony No. 5 in E-flat major. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium, 825 North University. Tickets \$14-\$70 (students, \$12-\$20) in advance at tickets.ums.org, at the Michigan League, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764-2538.

“Wine, Women, and Song: A Funny Thing Happened On the Way ...”: Kerrystown Concert House. See 24 Friday. 8 p.m.

“The Believers Are But Brothers”: University Musical Society. See 22 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

27 MONDAY

“As Far As My Fingertips Take Me”: U-M Institute for the Humanities (University Musical Society). See 24 Friday. 4-9 p.m.

★“That’s the Power of Love: Compassion, Love, and Transformation in Urban America”: Ann Arbor District Library. U-M psychology professor Jacqueline Mattis discusses her research on the positive impact of everyday encounters with human goodness in the lives of urban African American and Afro-Caribbean people. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown multipurpose rm., 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4200.

★“Folk Song Jam-Along.” All invited to join a family-oriented recreational sing-along of familiar folk, pop, rock, Broadway tunes, and more. Bring your instruments if you’d like to jam along as well. Led by Lori Fithian and Jean Chorazycewski. 7-8:30 p.m., Ann Arbor District Library Westgate. Free. 426-7818.

★University Philharmonia Orchestra: U-M School of Music. Adrian Slywotzky conducts this music student ensemble in a program highlighted by a performance of Joseph Marx’s song cycle *Transfigured Year* featuring vocalist Meridian Prall, winner of the annual U-M Concerto Competition. Also, Mendelssohn’s *A Midsummer Night’s Dream Overture* and works by Finnish composers Rautavaara (*Cantus Arcticus*) and Sibelius (*Pohjola’s Daughter*). 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 615-3204.

28 TUESDAY

★“The 1619 Project: Examining the Legacy of Slavery and the Building of a Nation”: U-M Wallace House. City of Detroit arts & culture

director Rochelle Riley and *New York Times* journalist Nikole Hannah-Jones discuss Hannah-Jones' **1619 Project**, a collection of essays, poems, photos, and short fiction that aims to reframe U.S. history in the context of 1619, the year the first slave ship arrived in America. 6 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Free. 998-7666.

★“**The 2020 Census: Count Every Person. Once. In the Right Place**”: Ann Arbor District Library. Talk by a League of Women Voters member TBA. Q&A. Handouts. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek, 3090 E. Eisenhower. Free. 327-4200.

★“**Amateur Radio**”: Ann Arbor District Library. Ham Radio Podcast host Dan Romanchik, who's made appearances on amateur radio ICQ Podcast, discusses amateur radio, including satellite communications, software-defined radio, and wireless networking. Also, he explains how to become a licensed operator. 6:30-8 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4200.

★**Skazat! Poetry Series at Sweetwaters**. Reading by Dennis Hinrichsen, a former Lansing poet laureate author whose most recent collection, *Skin Music*, uses motifs of skin and music to explore the desire for a believable, knowable place. 7-8:30 p.m., Sweetwaters, 123 W. Washington. Free. 994-6663.

29 WEDNESDAY

“**Roadsigns**”: Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 16 Thursday. 3 p.m.

“**As Far As My Fingertips Take Me**”: U-M Institute for the Humanities (University Musical Society). See 24 Friday. 4-9 p.m.

★“**Rodrigo Duterte's Facebook-Fueled Rise to Power: Manipulating Public Opinion to Capture an Election**”: U-M Wallace House. Discussion with *New York Times* reporter Davey Alba and U-M information professor Ceren Budak about Philippines President Duterte's rise to power. 4-5:30 p.m., Weill Hall Annenberg Auditorium, 735 S. State. Free. 998-7666.

“**Comedy Jamm**”: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 8 Wednesday. 7:30 p.m.

“**Women's Improv Jam**”: Pointless Brewery & Theatre. All women, trans, & non-binary people invited to watch or perform short-form improv. 7:30 p.m., Pointless, 3014 Packard. Pay what you can. (989) 455-4484.

“**Is This A Room: Reality Winner Verbatim Transcription**”: Half Straddle (University Musical Society). Jan. 29-Feb. 1. NYC-based experimental playwright Tina Satter directs this verbatim staging of the transcript that occurred on June 3, 2017 when a fleet of FBI agents showed up unannounced at the home of a 25-year-old former intelligence specialist with the improbable name of Reality Winner. She was charged with leaking a single classified document about Russian election hacking. Dramatically precise, the transcript notes every sigh, stray sound, and offhand remark. With musician Sanae Yamada's disorienting synth-based score. 7:30 p.m. (Wed. & Thurs.) & 7:30 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), Arthur Miller Theatre, 1226 Murfin. Tickets \$35-\$40 (students, \$12-\$20), in advance at tickets.UMS.org, at Michigan League, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764-2538.

★**University Symphony Orchestra**: U-M School of Music. Kenneth Kiesler conducts this ensemble of music majors in Rachmaninoff's *Symphonic Dances* and Gershwin's *Cuban Overture* and *Rhapsody in Blue*, with U-M piano professor Logan Skelton as soloist. Preceded at 7:15 p.m. by a preconcert lecture in the lower lobby. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 615-3204.

30 THURSDAY

“**As Far As My Fingertips Take Me**”: U-M Institute for the Humanities (University Musical Society). See 24 Friday. 4-9 p.m.

★**Jose Antonio Vargas**: Ann Arbor District Library. This Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, Emmy-nominated filmmaker, theatrical producer, and undocumented American since age 12 discusses *Dear America: Notes of an Undocumented Citizen*, his new memoir about what it means to pass as an American and contributing citizen, as well as the unmoved psychological state in which an estimated 11 million undocumented immigrants in America find themselves. Signing. 7-8:30 p.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg., Townley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River. Free. 327-4200.

★“**Sustainable Ann Arbor Forum: Carbon Neutrality in the Energy Sector**”: Ann Arbor District Library. Panel discussion (panelists TBA) about the current ideas for reducing Ann Arbor city government's carbon consumption to net-zero. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown multipurpose rm., 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4200.

★“**Spotlight on Ethiopia**”: Ann Arbor District Library. WSU internal medicine clinical researcher Alemu Fite, an Ethiopian native, discusses the history

and culture of one of the world's oldest countries. Tastings of Ethiopian coffee & snacks. Q&A. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL Westgate. Free. 327-4200.

“**Is This A Room: Reality Winner Verbatim Transcription**”: Half Straddle (University Musical Society). See 29 Wednesday. 7:30 p.m.

★**Faculty Showcase Concert**: U-M School of Music. A collage-style concert of works in various styles by U-M music professors. 7:30 p.m., U-M Moore Bldg. Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits. Free. 15-3204.

Joe DeVito: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. Jan. 30 & 31 and Feb. 1. Popular NYC comic whose act is a fast-paced blend of mordantly irreverent observational one-liners with self-deprecating storytelling about love, his Italian American family, and current events. He was one of the principal writers for Morgan Spurlock's satirical documentary *Super Size Me*. Preceded by 2 opening acts TBA. Alcohol is served. 7:30 p.m. (Thurs.-Sat.) & 10 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 212 S. Fourth Ave. \$10 (Thurs.) & \$14 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance at etix.com before 6 p.m. the night of the show; \$12 (Thurs.) & \$16 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996-9080.

“**Roadsigns**”: Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 16 Thursday. 8 p.m.

31 FRIDAY

“**As Far As My Fingertips Take Me**”: U-M Institute for the Humanities (University Musical Society). See 24 Friday. 4-9 p.m.

43rd Annual Ann Arbor Folk Festival: The Ark. Jan. 31 & Feb. 1 (different programs). A major highlight of the local musical year, with established and rising stars representing a wide spectrum of vernacular musical idioms. Tonight's headliner is the collaborative combo of indie Americana rock band Calexico and Iron & Wine, the stage name of North Carolina-based singer-songwriter Samuel Beam. Their 2019 album, *Years to Burn*, combines Beam's soulful, delicate vocals and melancholic lyrics exploring the passage of time and the nature of love. Also: Ingrid Michaelson, a popular New York pop-folk singer-songwriter with a crystalline voice and a talent for writing songs that pair sunny melodies with melancholic lyrics. The Lone Bellows, a Brooklyn-based country-soul trio that sets songs of heartache and tribulation to music driven by swelling 3-part vocal harmonies and group choruses. Cedric Burnside, an acclaimed blues singer-songwriter & electric guitarist who got his start as the drummer in the band of his grandfather, Mississippi hill country blues icon R.L. Burnside. Rainbow Girls, a Bay Area trio that combines emotive guitar work with poignant lyrics about love, self-reflection, and social justice. Elliott BROOD, an Ontario folk-rock and alt-country trio known for its raw, energetic shows. Veteran pop-folk singer-songwriter Willy Porter emcees. 6:30 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets \$45-\$110 per night or \$80-\$200 for both, in advance at the Michigan League Underground, the Ark box office, and TheArk.org, and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

“**Celtic Heartbeat**”: U-M Léim Irish Dance. This student dance ensemble performs soft- & hard-shoe Irish dances full of high kicks and fancy footwork. 7 p.m., Mendelssohn Theatre, 911 North University. Tickets \$10 (students, \$5). Irish.Dance.Leim@gmail.com

Joe DeVito: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 30 Thursday. 7:30 & 10 p.m.

★**Symphony Band Chamber Winds**: U-M School of Music. Richard Frey directs this ensemble of U-M music majors in Carl Orff's *Kleines Konzert*, Walter Hartley's Double Concerto for Alto Saxophone and Tube, William Albright's Introduction, Passacaglia, and Rondo Capriccioso, Shuying Li's *The Last Hive Mind*, and Charles Gounod's *Petite Symphony*. 8 p.m., U-M Moore Bldg. Hankinson Rehearsal Hall, 1100 Baits. Free. 615-3204.

“**Wine, Women, and Song: A Funny Thing Happened On the Way ...**”: Kerrystown Concert House. See 24 Friday. 8 p.m.

“**Apple Season**”: Theatre Nova. Every Thurs.-Sun., Jan. 31-Feb. 23. David Wolber directs the Michigan premiere of Oregon-based playwright E. M. Lewis's family drama about a woman's tangled past that resurfaces after her father dies. Stars Alycia Kolascz, Matthew Swift, & Jeremy Kucharek. 8 p.m. (Thurs.-Sat.) & 2 p.m. (Sun.), Theatre Nova, 410 W. Huron. Tickets \$22 in advance at Artful Ly/Theatre-Nova and (if available) at the door. Members (\$75 annual donation) receive priority access to all shows. 635-8450.

“**Is This A Room: Reality Winner Verbatim Transcription**”: Half Straddle (University Musical Society). See 29 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

“**Roadsigns**”: Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 16 Thursday. 8 p.m.

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The Classifieds deadline for the February issue is January 10.

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The Classifieds deadline for the February issue is January 10.

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Miscellaneous

The Classifieds deadline for the February issue is January 10.

I SPY CONTEST

Can you identify the glimpse of Ann Arbor in the photo on p. 75? If you can, you could win a \$25 check made out to any business advertising in this issue. One winner will be drawn from all correct entries received by noon, January 10. No phone entries, please. Send your answer to: I Spy, Ann Arbor Observer, 2390 Winewood, AA 48103. Fax: 769-3375; email: backpage@aaobserver.com (put I Spy in the subject line).

FAKE AD CONTEST

Can you find the fake ad in this issue of the Observer? If you can, you could win a \$25 gift certificate to any business advertising in this issue! One winner will be drawn from all correct entries received by noon, January 10. No phone entries, please. Send your answer to: backpage@aaobserver.com or write to: 2390 Winewood, AA 48103.

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The Classifieds deadline for the February issue is January 10.

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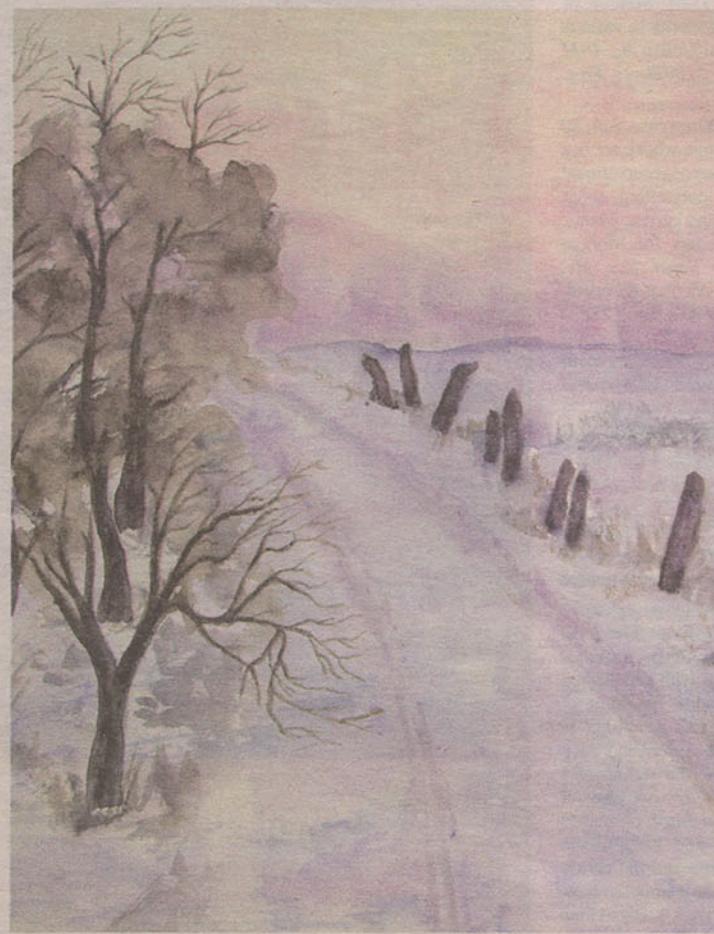
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Sincerely,

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Publisher



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SELLERS – The value of your home is at its highest level since 2007. Demand for your home is at the highest level since 2004. But this market is far from "easy". The issues of pricing, managing multiple offers, and successfully appraising the home with the buyer's lender are more complex than ever. It takes an experienced agent with an effective strategy to successfully sell your home and get it closed.

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NE ANN ARBOR – This 4-bedroom, 3 1/2-bath Frank Lloyd Wright-inspired contemporary home is a pure masterpiece of design and materials. Estate setting with 8-acres of the most beautiful land you will find. Includes extensive landscaping with a flowing stream, stone patio, and pond. The home highlights include soaring ceilings, dramatic slate fireplace, stone flooring, gourmet kitchen, luxury master suite, and finished walkout lower level. \$950,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



BROOKVIEW HIGHLANDS – Stunning 5-bedroom, 4 1/2-bath custom-built home on one of the best lots in the neighborhood. This stately home rests at the end of a quiet cul-de-sac lot featuring great landscaping, paver patio, and huge backyard. The interior is a showpiece. Highlights include cherry kitchen with granite and high-end appliances, open family room with fireplace, sunroom, screened porch, luxury master suite with sitting room, and finished basement. You will love this home. \$879,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

FEATURED HOME



ANN ARBOR HILLS – This custom-built 5-bedroom, 4 1/2-bath colonial is a rare find in one of Ann Arbor's most sought after neighborhoods. Custom kitchen with professional grade appliances, open concept floor plan, family room with fireplace, all-hardwood flooring, dream master suite with vaulted ceilings and spa-like bath, great sized kids' bedrooms, and finished lower level with rec and exercise room, bedroom, and bath. \$1,345,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



RIDING OAKS – This custom-built 4-bedroom, 3 1/2-bath home by Toll Brothers rests on one of the best lots in this very popular west side neighborhood. You will love the setting on a quiet cul-de-sac lot with large deck, patio, fire pit, and huge backyard. The interior is stunning featuring a two-story foyer with dual sweeping stairs, two-story family room with stacked stone fireplace, open concept kitchen with maple cabinets and granite, and luxury master suite with sitting room, two walk-in closets, and great bath. \$849,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



STONEBRIDGE – Custom-built 5-bedroom, 4 1/2-bath home with panoramic views of the #11 hole. This home is just stunning inside and out. The exterior features extensive landscaping, large deck, and screened porch. Interior highlights include family room with fieldstone fireplace, open concept kitchen with granite and high-end appliances, luxury master suite with sitting room and spa like bath, and finished walkout basement. \$839,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



TRAVIS POINTE – Incredible 5-bedroom, 3-bath, two 1/2-bath colonial in the area's premier Country Club neighborhood. The setting is wonderful including a 1.1-acre lot, golf views from the front, large deck, and patio. The interior is stunning. Highlights include all-hardwood floor on the main level, remodeled kitchen with granite, open family room with fireplace, sunroom, great master suite with updated bath, bonus room, and finished basement. You will love it! \$634,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



WATERWAYS – You will love this 5-bedroom, 4 1/2-bath home located on a private wooded site in one of the area's most desired neighborhoods. The setting is wonderful with mature trees, great landscaping, and large deck. This home sparkles on the inside with two-story living, cherry kitchen with granite countertops, open concept floor plan includes family room with fireplace, luxury first floor master suite, great kids' bedrooms, and finished basement. \$619,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



NE ANN ARBOR – Stately 4-bedroom, 3-bath farmhouse on 10-acres just minutes from Ann Arbor, NCRC, hospitals, and freeways. This is an incredible setting just outside the city with rolling land, historic barn, pond, and hay field. The interior of this home features a century old living room with tons of charm and character, family room with fireplace, large screened porch, nice master suite with attached bath, and 3 large kids' bedrooms. \$619,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



NEW LISTING – HAWTHORNE RIDGE – Incredible 5-bedroom, 3 1/2-bath home in one of Ann Arbor's most desired neighborhoods. This home has been completely redone on the inside. Features include all hardwood floors on the first and 2nd floors, remodeled kitchen with custom maple cabinets and granite countertops, open concept family room with vaulted ceiling and fireplace, luxury master suite, and finished walkout basement with rec room, bedroom, and bath. \$469,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

FEATURED HOME



ESTATE HOME – Incredible 5-bedroom, 3-bath, three $\frac{1}{2}$ -bath custom-built home on a 2.6-acre pond frontage lot in one of the area's most prestigious locations. This home was an entry in the 2001 Showcase of Homes tour, features a Frank Lloyd Wright-inspired architecture, and only the finest materials. Highlights include imported stone exterior, all-hardwood floors on the main two floors, custom kitchen with granite and high-end appliances, luxury master suite with spa-like bath, and finished lower level. Saline schools. \$1,095,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



ANN ARBOR HILLS – This 5-bedroom, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ -bath custom-built estate is one of the finest homes in Ann Arbor. The 2-acre setting is breathtaking. The grounds include extensive landscaping, incredible outdoor living patios, and the finest pool you will see. The home was built to the highest standard of design, materials, and craftsmanship. Highlights include gourmet kitchen with professional grade appliances, dramatic living spaces, luxury master suite, and finished walkout basement. Incredible! \$1,995,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



WOODLANDS OF GEDDES GLEN – Incredible 5-bedroom, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ -bath custom-built home overlooking Radrick Farms Golf Course. This home was built to the highest standards. The setting is special with great outdoor living spaces. Interior highlights include gourmet kitchen with Wolf/Sub-Zero appliances, two-story great room, luxury master bedroom suite with sitting area, two walk-in closets, spa-like baths, and finished walkout basement! \$1,795,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



NEW LISTING - SALINE ESTATES

Custom-built 5-bedroom, 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ -bath all-brick and stone home on a quiet cul-de-sac lot with panoramic views of common area and pond. This home was constructed to the highest standards seen in our area. Highlights include one of the nicest residential pools you will find, custom kitchen with granite and Viking/SubZero appliances, open concept family room, Solarium, luxury master suite with brand new bath, and finished walkout basement with 2nd kitchen, large rec room, and additional flex-use rooms. \$1,295,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



NE ANN ARBOR – Stunning, custom-built 4-bedroom, 4-bath contemporary overlooking the Huron River Valley. This home was built to standards rarely seen in Ann Arbor. The best materials, design, and craftsmanship is evident inside and out of this true work of art. Highlights include wooded 2.3-acre lot, walls of glass that bring the outside in, light-filled great room, custom kitchen, and dream master suite. \$1,195,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



NEWPORT HILLS – Custom-built 5-bedroom, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ -bath home in one of Ann Arbor's most desired neighborhoods in Wines Elementary school district. Great setting on a quiet cul-de-sac lot with extensive landscaping and large paver patio. The interior is wonderful including two-story family room with stone fireplace, open concept kitchen with professional grade appliances, luxury first floor master suite, main level den, great kids' bedrooms, and bonus room. \$1,090,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



BROOKVIEW HIGHLANDS – Spectacular, custom-built 6-bedroom, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ -bath two-story on a quiet cul-de-sac in one of Saline's most desired neighborhoods. This home has it all. Gorgeous 1.2-acre lot with extensive landscaping, large patio, and pond. The interior is stunning including custom kitchen with granite and professional grade appliances, family room with fireplace, screen porch, sunroom, luxury master suite with sitting room, and finished basement. \$982,500. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



NEW LISTING - WINES ELEMENTARY

Classic 4/5-bedroom, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ -bath mid-century modern style ranch on a gorgeous one-acre lot. This setting is special with great privacy, extensive landscaping, large deck, and screened porch all just minutes to downtown, schools, and UM. Interior highlights include great room with vaulted ceiling and fireplace, renovated kitchen with white cabinets, granite, and stainless steel appliances, nice master bedroom suite, and flex-use addition that works as bedroom suite or home office. \$819,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



CENTENNIAL PARK – This 4-bedroom, 4-bath, two $\frac{1}{2}$ -bath former builder's model home is loaded with custom features in one of Saline school's most popular neighborhoods. This home rests on one of the largest lots in the neighborhood with extensive landscaping, paver patio, and huge backyard. The interior highlights include two-story family room, cherry kitchen, sunroom, private den, luxury first floor master suite, bonus room, and finished basement. \$799,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



HIGHPOINTE AT STONEBRIDGE

Incredible 3-bedroom, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ -bath detached condo overlooking the 17th fairway at Stonebridge. This is one of the finest condo options you will ever see in the Ann Arbor area. The interior space is dramatic and loaded with quality features and upgrades. Highlights include a panoramic golf course view, great room with vaulted ceiling and hardwood floor, open concept kitchen with professional grade appliances, stunning sunroom, luxury first floor master suite, and finished basement. \$699,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



NEW LISTING - SALINE SCHOOLS

Custom-built 4-bedroom, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -bath home on 6+ wooded acres, backing to a stream. This setting is incredible. Enjoy one of the prettiest views in Saline from the oversized deck and screened porch. The interior is spacious with over 4000 sq.ft. Highlights include great room with stone fireplace, custom cherry kitchen, luxury first floor master suite, den, and great kids' bedrooms. You will love this home. \$649,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



SW ANN ARBOR – This stunning 4-bedroom, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -bath transitional contemporary features a wonderful floor plan and a long list of upgrades. You'll love this convenient location just minutes to downtown Ann Arbor, shopping, schools, and UM stadium. The setting is special and located on a quiet private lane with great deck, extensive landscaping, and pond. The interior features great room with vaulted ceiling and fireplace, custom kitchen with painted maple cabinets and granite counters, den, luxury master suite with vaulted ceiling, remodeled bath, and finished basement. \$434,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



NEW LISTING - THE MEADOWINDS – Very nice 4-bedroom, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -bath two-story in Scio Township just minutes to schools, shopping, and downtown Ann Arbor. The lot backs to protected and common area providing nice privacy from the large deck. The interior sparkles. Highlights include maple kitchen with granite countertops, great room with vaulted ceiling and fireplace, first floor den, luxury master bedroom suite, and great size kids' bedrooms. \$419,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



LAKE FOREST HIGHLANDS – Move-in condition 4-bedroom, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ -bath home in one of Ann Arbor's most desired neighborhoods. This home is wonderful inside and out. Located on a quiet cul-de-sac lot you will love the spacious lot, large backyard, and great deck. The interior sparkles and features great room with vaulted ceiling and fireplace, open concept kitchen with quartz counters, luxury master suite, and finished lower level with rec room, bedroom, and bath. \$399,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

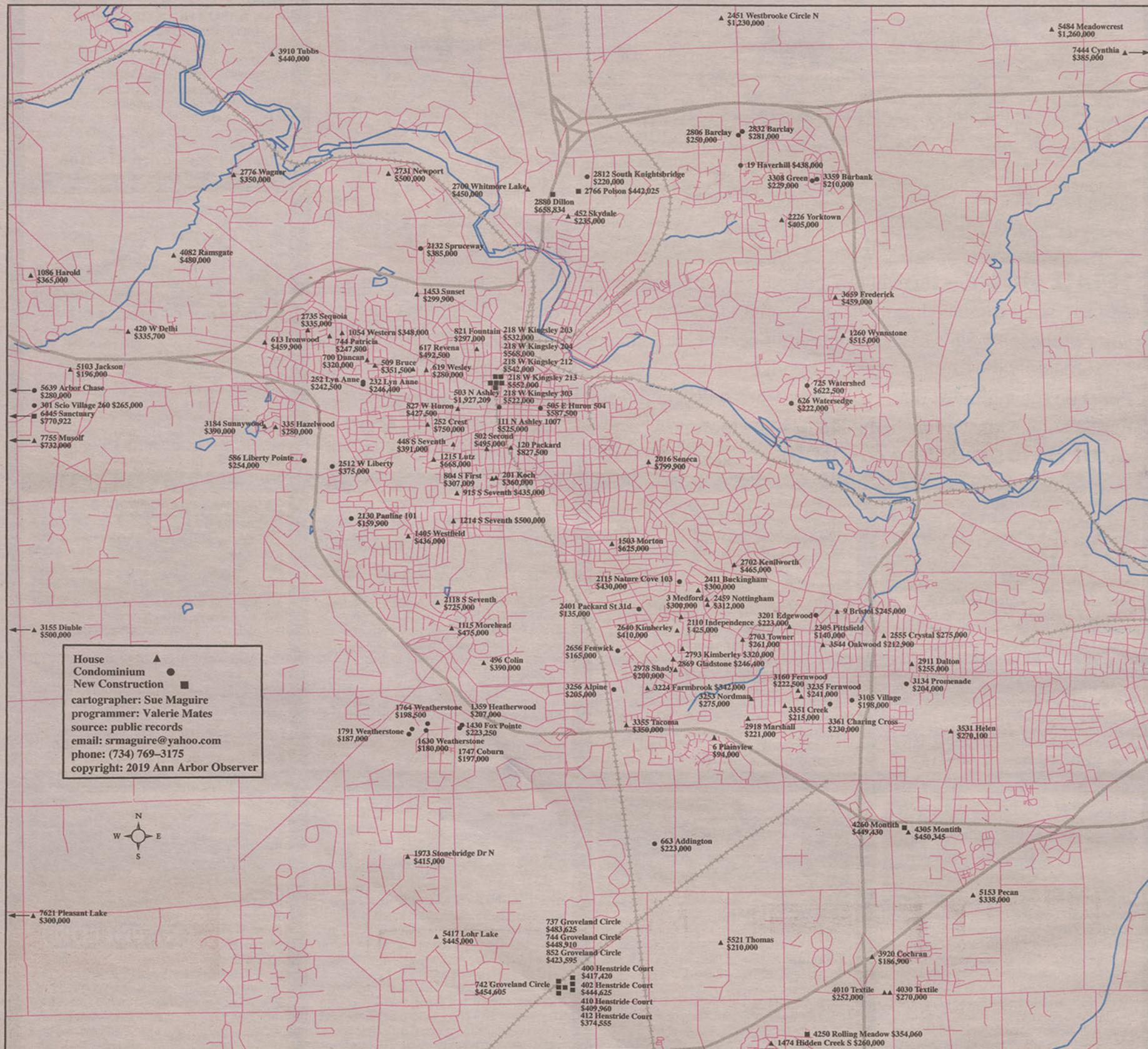


NEW LISTING - ANN ARBOR CONDO

Very sharp 3-bedroom, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ -bath condo on Ann Arbor's east side just minutes to shopping, freeways, and UM. Interior highlights include all-hardwood floor on the main level, open concept floor plan, maple kitchen with granite countertops, great room with fireplace, luxury master suite with vaulted ceiling and glamour bath, two nice sized additional bedrooms, and finished basement. \$294,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NOVEMBER 2019

HOME SALES



What's the best place in the school district to find a home for under \$250,000? Start in the City of Ann Arbor: only three of the fifteen homes that sold at this price point in November were outside the city. Seven were in various neighborhoods in southeast Ann Arbor, but others stretched from Skydale on the north side, Patricia Ave. on the west, Gladstone and Shady Lane in the south-central area, and Stoneybrook / Arbor Oaks on the south side.

An 864-square-foot Arbor Oaks ranch at 6 Plainview Ct. sold for just \$94,000. This home's last recorded sale, however, was for a mere \$17,000 in 2010 from USA Rental Fund, LLC, which in turn had purchased the home from Fannie Mae in an \$8,375 transaction recorded just a few months earlier.

With forty-two sales, condos accounted for 32 percent of November's transactions. Nine were new construction, including four in Pulte's Inglewood Park subdivision in Pittsfield Township at the northwest corner of State and Textile, in the Saline school district but with Ann Arbor addresses. The Inglewood homes sold for an average of \$411,640.

Three homes broke the \$1 million mark: 2451 Westbrooke Circle North in Ann Arbor Township (\$1,230,000), 5484 Meadowcrest Dr. in Superior Township (\$1,260,000), and 503 N. Ashley near downtown (\$1,927,209). A Huron Contractors teardown that replaced a small Greek Revival house, the latter is a 3,074-square foot home that features an elevator, a six-car heated garage, and—judging

from the delivery truck outside in December—a Peloton stationary bike.

A few doors west, Kingsley Condominiums added five more sales in November, at an average price of \$543,200. That brings recent sales in the Promanas "ground-up" development to twenty, ranging in price from \$522,000 to \$1,151,753. According to Martin Bouma, Realtor at Keller Williams, less than half of the fifty-one are still for sale. The five-story building includes a full fitness center and a rooftop terrace with indoor and outdoor kitchens.

Founded by Ann Arborite John Bogdasarian, Promanas (he says it "rhymes with bananas") is a commercial real estate firm that raises money from accredited investors

(with high earnings and/or net worth) to fund real estate developments.

In the *Wealth Matters* podcast, Bogdasarian recounts getting his start selling condos in a golf course community and homes in Ann Arbor in the mid-1990s. He quickly switched to commercial real estate, and, while building his own portfolio, recognized that he could realize economies of scale with more investment dollars. He has since grown his pool of investors from seven to nearly 400. He told *Wealth Matters*' Alpesh Parmar that after doing other ground-up developments in Colorado, Florida, D.C., and Nashville, he counts Ann Arbor as one of the most difficult places to work, in part due to inspection delays and the city's political process.

—Sue Maguire



Contact

The GERBSTADT Team

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 Handsome two story home on premium site. Stamped concrete patio overlooks fenced yard. 4 bedroom 2.5 baths. Recent updates: new roof, new a/c, re-finished hardwood floors & new carpet. Family room has log fireplace. 1st floor laundry. Close to shops & restaurants. Quick commute on I-94 to Ann Arbor & Metro Airport.



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NE ANN ARBOR BEAUTY

BEAUTIFULLY RENOVATED IN 2019! \$479,900
 Warm inviting two story across the street from Sugarbush Park. 4 bedrooms 2.5 baths 2564 SF Stunning kitchen boasts Cherry cabinets, granite counters, custom lighting & SS appliances. Deck has lovely private views of treed back yard. Hardwood floors thru-out. Recent updates: New vinyl siding, windows, furnace & a/c.



SOUGHT AFTER ARBOR HILLS

PEACEFUL CUL-DE-SAC SETTING \$375,000
 4 bedrooms 2.5 baths 1980 SF Stylish luxury laminate wood floors on 1st floor. Gas log fireplace in Family room. Convenient 1st floor laundry room. Just steps to neighborhood park. Easy access to US-23 & minutes to UM North Campus, Dominos Farms, shops & restaurants.



PITTSFIELD VILLAGE CONDO

TERRIFIC VALUE IN ANN ARBOR \$141,000
 East-west exposure provides wonderful natural light! Hardwood floors in living room, hall & 2 bedrooms. Vaulted ceiling in Living room. Basement with 2 large daylight windows is ideal to finish for additional living area. Deck overlooks grassy commons.



WEST SIDE - ANN ARBOR

POPULAR VERNON DOWNS NEIGHBORHOOD \$344,500 All brick ranch nestled in a peaceful cul-de-sac site. 3 bedrooms 2 baths Gorgeous re-finished hardwood floors through-out. Beautifully re-modeled Master bath has handicap accessible shower. 1131 SF plus 626 SF in finished basement. Fully fenced backyard.



EARHART VILLAGE CONDO

DELIGHTFUL TWO STORY \$249,900
 2 large bedrooms 1334 SF plus 550 SF in finished basement. Relax on your private secluded deck. Enjoy care-free condo living surrounded by lush mature landscaping & spring-fed ponds. Resort style amenities include clubhouse & pool. Just a short commute to UM Medical Center & North Campus.



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Back Page

i Spy

by Sally Bjork

"Thanks for featuring something here" on the Southeast side, says Moira Tannenbaum regarding December's I Spy. It's the Korean Church of Ann Arbor," writes Lillian Chen. "This charming church is nestled at 3301 Creek Dr.," writes David Karl, adding that it was originally the First Spiritualist "Church of the Divine Faith, [built] by Mary Ellen Pentland in the shape of a cross." In a 1973 "Personality Portrait" in the *Ann Arbor News*, Pentland "almost single-handedly" built the church over the course of 16 years and then became ordained at the age of eighty-two to lead it. The Korean Church of Ann Arbor, with roots in the city since 1967, arranged to buy the building in 1976 when Rev. Pentland, then eighty-four, was looking to downsize.

Seven people entered our contest, and six correctly identified the Ko-



Books to games to ?

rean Church of Ann Arbor. Our random drawing winner is Mike Appel of Ann Arbor. "If I win," he quips, "I will buy half a pie from Zingerman's."

To enter this month's contest, use the clue and photo above and send your guess to the address below.

by Jay Forstner

We received 149 entries correctly identifying last month's Fake Ad for Ed Nimby, the longtime fictitious politician and an anonymous man for an acrimonious time. The ad appeared on page 58 of the December Observer, but finding the last name of November's winner proved to be a challenge for many.

Not for Silvia Ruiz! "Hello Fake Ad Creator," she writes "You've really outdone yourself this month. Who knew that one of my favorite childhood movies had so much hidden meaning? The sketch of the lion under the word courage was a great clue to look further into the Wizard of Oz. Never knew that the Wonderful Wizard of Oz was an allegory or metaphor for the political, economic, and social events of America in the 1890's and that L. Frank Baum satirized William JENNINGS Bryan as the cowardly lion. Bet the previous



To enter this month's contest, find the fake ad and follow the instructions in the box below. The fake ad always contains the name of last month's winner in some form.

To enter this month's contests, send email to backpage@aaobserver.com. Mail: 2390 Winewood, Ann Arbor, MI 48103. All correct entries received by noon on Friday, January 10 will be eligible for our random drawings. Winners receive \$25 gift certificates to any business advertising in this issue.



THANKS!

We extend a sincere thank you to our new Observer friends!

We appreciate your financial support.

Thanks also to readers who responded to our request for **FREE** subscription confirmations.

Congratulations to the lucky winners of our December drawing!

The following readers won a **\$25 gift certificate** to their choice of any business advertising in the Observer.

December winners:
Gary W. & Fredda C.

If you would like to be entered in the January drawing for a \$25 gift certificate to any business advertising in this issue, check out the information on page 68, and submit your Observer Friend or Free Subscription confirmation by January 10.

Thanks!
Observer Staff

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Events at a Glance

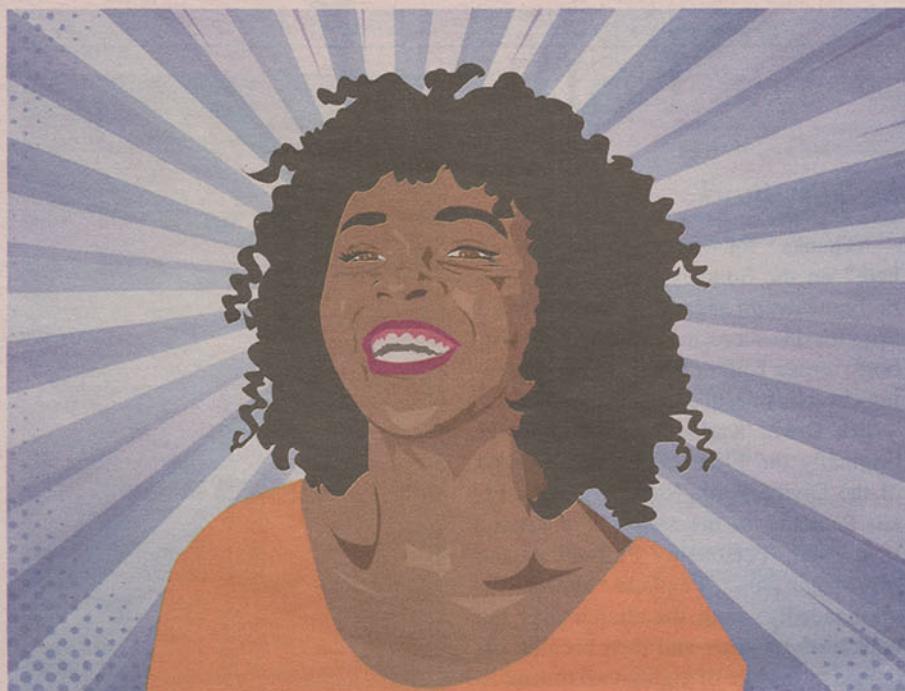


ILLUSTRATION: LR NUÑEZ

Daily Events listings begin on p. 53. Films: p. 63. Galleries: p. 57. Kids: p. 64. Nightspots begin on p. 50.

►Reviewed in this issue. See p. 53.

Concert Music

classical, religious, cabaret

- Pianist Martin Katz, Jan. 10 & 12
- Eya medieval vocal trio, Jan. 11
- Classical guitarist Ben Lougheed, Jan. 12
- "Mozart Birthday Bash," Jan. 18
- "Wine, Women, and Song," Jan. 24–26, & 31
- Minnesota Orchestra, Jan. 25

Vernacular Music

pop, rock, jazz, & traditional

See Nightspots, p. 50, for shows at the Ark, Blind Pig, Blue Llama, & other clubs

- Elaine Dame Trio (jazz), Jan. 11
- Gaelynn Lea (singer-songwriter), Jan. 16
- Out Loud Chorus, Jan. 17 & 18
- Andrew Collins Trio (bluegrass), Jan. 18
- The Ann Arbor Folk Festival, Jan. 31 & Feb. 1

Theater, Opera, & Dance

- Opera on Tap, Jan. 4
- *Roadsigns* (Purple Rose), every Wed.–Sun. Jan. 16–Mar. 14
- *Metamorphoses* (U-M RC Players), Jan. 17–19
- EMU dance faculty, Jan. 17–19
- Pioneer High "FutureStars," Jan. 17, 18, & 25
- U-M Collage Concert, Jan. 18
- *The Believers Are But Brothers* (UMS), Jan. 22–25
- *Falsettos* (U-M Basement Arts), Jan. 24 & 25
- *Is This A Room* (Half Straddle), Jan. 29–Feb. 1
- *Apple Season* (Theatre Nova), every Thurs.–Sun, Jan. 31–Feb. 23

Comedy, Storytelling, & Performance Art

- Fifty First Jokes, Jan. 2
- Comic Ben Moore, Jan. 2–4
- The Moth StorySLAM, Jan. 7 & 21
- Comic Roy Wood Jr., Jan. 10 & 11

• Comic Andy Hendrickson, Jan. 16–18

• Comic Brad Wenzel, Jan. 23–25

• *As Far As My Fingertips Take Me* interactive performance art, Jan. 24–Feb. 2

• Comic Joe DeVito, Jan. 30–Feb. 1

Festivals, Fairs, & Shows

- Ann Arbor Figure Skating Club, Jan. 12
- 36th Annual MLK Jr. Ball, Jan. 18
- Record & CD Collector's Show, Jan. 19
- "Great Lakes Days," Jan. 25
- "Đêm Việt Nam" (U-M Vietnamese Student Association), Jan. 25

Lectures, Readings, & Forums

- Poet Thomas Lynch, Jan. 6
- Poet Shane McCrae, Jan. 9
- Storyteller Genot Picor, Jan. 11
- Activist Angela Davis, Jan. 20
- Civil rights pioneer Terrence Roberts, Jan. 20
- U-M Hopwood Awards with poet Raquel Salas Rivera, Jan. 22
- Fiction writer Rion Amilcar Scott, Jan. 23
- Pulitzer-winning journalist Jose Antonio Vargas, Jan. 30

Family & Kids' Stuff

See our *Kids Calendar*, p. 64, for most kids events.

- *Frog and Toad* (Wild Swan), Jan. 22–25
- *PJ Masks Save the Day Live!* (EMU Convocation Center), Jan. 26

Miscellaneous

- Pro Tennis Series tournament, Jan. 6–12
- Zingerman's "Hungry for Hungary" dinner, Jan. 21

"Only in Ann Arbor" Event of the Month

- Center of the City Commons open house, Jan. 15

ZELL VISITING WRITERS SERIES

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Unless otherwise noted,
all events take place at:

3:00 PM: Roundtable Q&A
(Hopwood Room, Angell Hall) | **5:30 PM: Reading & Book Signing**
(UMMA Helmut Stern Auditorium)

JANUARY 9

Shane McCrae

Zell Visiting Writer in Poetry

McCrae's book of poems, *The Gilded Auction Block*, puts the news in poems and fits the news into history and futurity. His poems speak of both the ridiculousness and the unnerving familiarity of today.

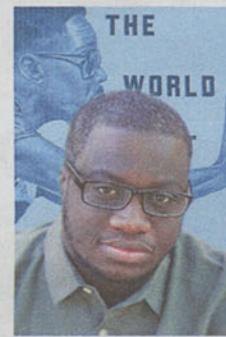


JANUARY 23

Rion Amilcar Scott

Zell Visiting Writer in Fiction

Scott's story collection, *The World Doesn't Require You*, shatters rigid genre lines to explore larger themes of religion, violence, and love—all told with sly humor and a dash of magical realism.



FEBRUARY 6

Ilya Kaminsky

Janey Lack Visiting Writer in Poetry

Kaminsky's parable in poems, *Deaf Republic*, reads like a two-act political drama in which lyric poems trace the experiences of citizens living under martial law. A *New Yorker* review called it a work of "profound imagination."



FEBRUARY 20

Catherine Lacey

Zell Visiting Writer in Fiction

Lacey's short story collection, *Certain American States*, portrays Americans tortured by the mundanity of their lives. The *Chicago Tribune* calls it "exactly what you would expect from Lacey: perfect sentences, penetrating insights, devastating epiphanies."



MARCH 19

Jenny Zhang

Zell Visiting Writer in Fiction

Zhang's story collection, *Sour Heart*, centers on immigrants who have traded their endangered lives as artists in China and Taiwan for the constant struggle of life at the poverty line in 1990s New York City. It examines the many ways that family and history can weigh us down and also lift us up.



MARCH 26

Kathleen Gruber

Zell Visiting Writer in Poetry

Gruber's poetry collection, *The River Twice*, is an elegiac meditation on impermanence and change. She presents a fluid world in which so much—including space and time, the subterranean realm of dreams, and language itself—seems protean.



APRIL 7 & 9

Lauren Groff

Janey Lack Distinguished Writer in Residence

Groff's latest book, *Florida*, explores loneliness, rage, family, and the passage of time. With shocking accuracy and effect, she pinpoints the moments, decisions and connections behind human pleasure and pain, hope and despair, love and fury—the moments that make us alive.



April 7: 5:30 PM: Reading & Book Signing
(UMMA The Apse)

April 9: 3:00 PM: Roundtable Q&A (Hopwood Room)
5:30 PM: In Conversation with Akil Kumarasamy
(UMMA Helmut Stern Auditorium)



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